

The Iron Age

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Published every Thursday Morning by DAVID WILLIAMS, Nos. 66 and 68 Duane Street, New York. Entered at the Post Office, New York, as Second-Class Matter,

Vol. XXXVIII: No. 1.

New York, Thursday, July 1, 1886.

\$4.50 a Year, Including Postage.
Single Copies, Ten Cents.

Draining Machinery in Northern Italy.

The Valley of the Po, the most extensively and most admirably irrigated district in the world, is not less remarkable for the importance and the excellence of the drainage works executed in recent years. In less than 30 years, from 1850 to 1879, upward of 600,000 acres of marshy land in the provinces of Venetia and Emilia alone have been drained and transformed into rich country. The question of drainage has from all time occupied the attention of the population of these Adriatic districts; but, in consequence of the difficulty and more often the impossibility of drainage by natural flow, it is only since the advent of steam

are fixed. In some instances the blades, instead of being free at their lower parts, are fixed to a circular plate having a central opening equal to that left by the crown plate. The wheel is placed low enough to be submerged at all levels of the water. It is driven by toothed gearing or by bands. The difference between the turbine (*rouet*) and the centrifugal pump is that the passages for water are much larger in the first than in the second. Consequently the velocity of the water is less and occasions less friction, while the water escapes more freely. For small quantities of water the pumps are more economical than the turbines, as the cost of construction of wells is saved. The turbines adapt themselves to great variation of level, while maintaining a high ratio of efficiency—about 75 per cent.

The Edgar Thomson Rail Mill.

Among the modern American rail mills that of the Edgar Thomson Steel Works, at Braddock, near Pittsburgh, occupies a conspicuous place. Its particular features, the result of the joint labors of Mr. R. W. Hunt, of Troy, and Mr. R. Jones, of Pittsburgh, are well brought out by the accompanying engravings, taken from the specifications of the patent granted to the latter on April 27, 1886. The three-high train consists of three sets of rolls, A, B and C, shown in the plan, Fig. 1. The weighing rolls A are provided with rising and falling feed-tables, D and E, one at the front and the other at the rear side of the train. One of the series of geared roller-shafts is provided with a friction-wheel, F, which

bloom from the rolls to the table, and obviate all danger of its stopping so near the rolls or guides as to interfere with its proper transfer by the tables from one pass to another. Secured to the floor in front of the rolls A and projecting up between the rolls of the table D are two rows of inclined guides, K and E, Fig. 3, the purpose of which is to shift the bloom from one of the upper passes over to the next lower pass to the right (or left, as the case may be) and to turn it while being shifted.

By reference to Fig. 3 it will be noticed that the surface of the rollers, when the table D is in its upper position, is above the upper ends of the guides K E. The bloom having gone through pass a and returned through pass b to the table D, the latter is caused to fall. As it does so the bloom

being driven into the pass, as is occasionally the case. The middle friction-wheel is thrown into gear with either of the wheels at pleasure by means of a lever connected with the sliding bearings by a system of rods and levers, shown in the upper right-hand corner of Fig. 1, for the purpose of causing the feed rollers of the table N to be driven in either direction, as may be desired.

Extending along the inner side of the feed table D is a rock-shaft, R, Figs. 1 and 3, which is provided with two or more radial arms or levers, and hinged at or to the adjacent side of the frame of the table M are a like number of slideways or bars, S, Fig. 3, which near their outer ends rest on the levers. The inner ends of the bars S terminate between or at the side of the rollers of the table D, and the upper or outer ends,

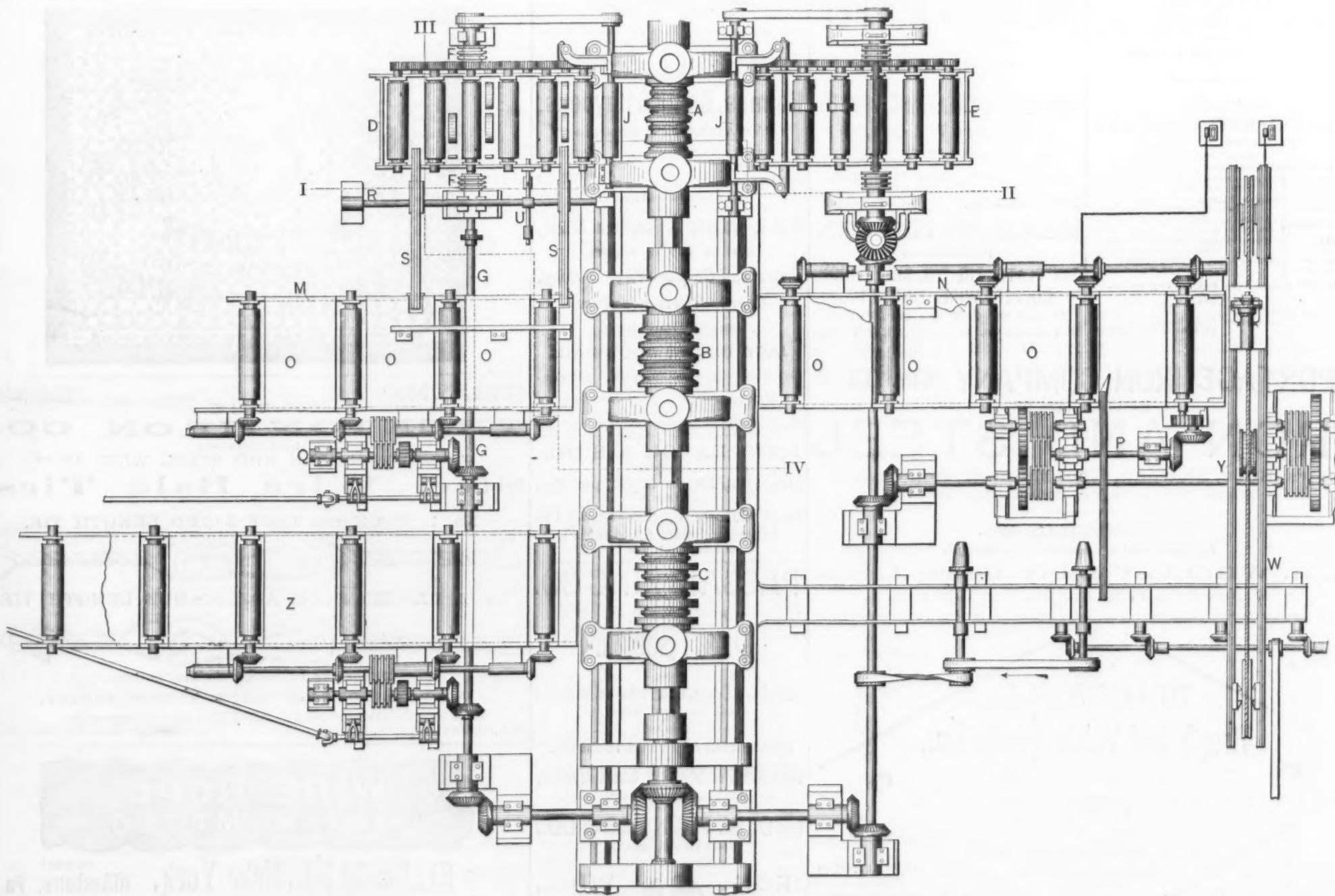


Fig. 1.—Plan Showing Construction.

THE EDGAR THOMSON RAIL MILL, AT BRADDOCK, NEAR PITTSBURGH.

that the work of drainage has been thoroughly performed. Drainage by machinery in the Valley of the Po is almost entirely carried out on one uniform plan. The ground to be drained is fenced round by catch-water trenches or canals. Occasionally, when necessary to prevent infiltration, the bottom of the canal is deeply trenched and filled with clay. Within the circumscribed territory a system of drains is cut, in which the water is conducted to the lowest level at a point conveniently selected, where the elevator is erected. By the elevator the water is lifted into a canal or a river, in which it is carried off by gravitation. The elevators have to deal with variable volumes of water at variable heights; but in general the greater the height the less the quantity to be lifted, so that the work to be done is in some sort constant. The heights vary generally in the ratio of 1 to 3.

Three systems of machines exclusively are employed as elevators: Centrifugal pumps, turbines (*rouets*) and lifting-wheels (*rouets elevatoires*). All of these machines are moved by steam-power, and they are the most economical. Piston pumps employed to raise large quantities of water through small heights have shown not more than 35 per cent. of efficiency. The turbine is only a centrifugal pump on a vertical axis, of which the pipes are replaced by the sides of a well. It consists essentially of a circular crown plate on a vertical shaft, on the under side of which the blades of a centrifugal pump

Speed is, according to one system, altered by means of changes of toothed-wheel gearing to suit the various levels.

According to another system the speed is maintained constant for different levels, but the efficiency may fall as low as 60 per cent. For this reason in the Po Valley centrifugal pumps and turbines are being gradually replaced by lifting-wheels. These wheels are arranged like undershot water-wheels, but with the reverse action that the water is raised by the wheel. Originally the blades or floats were straight and radial, and the wheels were of low efficiency—about 30 per cent. They dashed the water about as each blade entered it; whence their Italian name of *ruote a schiavo* (literally, slapping wheels). The blades are now inclined at about 60° to the radius, and are formed with a double curvature, so that the water is lifted without agitation or useless elevation, and by means of a sliding iron shutter the opening for access of water to the wheel is formed at the lower part only. The efficiency is increased as the difference of levels is increased, and it averages 80 per cent.

Since the county clerk's office in this city became a salaried office on January 1 last the receipts have been at the rate of \$132,000 a year. Deducting expenses the city will realize at least \$70,000 instead of nothing, as formerly. The receipts of the register's office are supposed to range between \$90,000 and \$130,000 a year.

engages with similar friction-wheels on the power shaft G. In the case of the table D they come into contact when the table is depressed, while in the rear table E they are driven when it is raised. This is clearly shown in Fig. 2, which represents a section through the line I, II, in the plan, Fig. 1. Feed table D is in the position in which its rollers are driven, while for E dotted lines show how the table is in its raised position when delivering the bloom to the rolls. The raising and lowering of the two tables is effected by a hydraulic cylinder, through the medium of cranks and pitman, H, Fig. 2. The tables are guided in their vertical movements by sleeves I, sliding on guide-rods attached to the housings. Journalled in the housing at the delivery side of the upper and lower passes are delivery rollers, J, one at each level, driven by belts from the power-shafts at each side of the train. It is apparent from the foregoing description that the rollers of the table D are driven by power when the table is down and acting as a feed table, and that when it is up and acting as a receiving table the rollers are turned, if at all, only by the friction of the bloom as it comes from the rolls. The rollers of the table E, on the other hand, are driven by power only when such table is up and in position to feed the bloom to the upper passes, and when the table is down in a position to receive the bloom from the lower passes, as shown in Fig. 2, the rollers are turned by the friction of the bloom alone. The driven rollers J insure the proper delivery of the

encounters the inclined upper sides of the guides K, and is shifted thereby over on the table, until when the latter reaches its lower position it lies in front of the pass c. At the same time the bloom is tipped by the inclines and turns over as it descends to place. When the table D reaches its lower position the friction-wheels F encounter the friction-wheels on the power-shaft below it, and are set in motion, starting the rollers, which drive the bloom into the pass c. The operation of the guides E is the same, turning the bloom between the passes f and g. The rolls B are provided with stationary feed tables M and N, Fig. 1, consisting of suitable frames in which are journalled driven feed rollers having intermediate platforms, O. The rollers of the table M are driven toward the rolls B by the shaft running parallel to the table, connected therewith by bevel gearing. This shaft is driven by a second shaft, Q, through the medium of friction gear wheels. This in turn is driven by the power-shaft G through the medium of bevel gearing. The rollers of the table N are driven toward the rolls B by a shaft connected therewith by bevel gearing. It receives power from the shaft of one of the rollers (in this case the outer one), which is connected by gearing with and is driven by a shaft, P. The other end of the shaft P is connected with the sliding bearings. The purpose of this construction is to disconnect the feed rollers of the table M whenever it is desired to prevent the bloom thereon from

which are beveled to receive the bloom as it comes from the last pass h of the roughing rolls A, terminate between the rollers of the table D when the latter is in a raised position. On the floor under the rock-shaft R is another rock-shaft, T, which is provided on one side with an arm or lever which bears against a friction roller on the under side of the frame of the table, D, and projecting from the other side of the rock-shaft T is a counterweighted arm, U, which holds the arm in contact with the friction roller as the table D rises and falls. The arm is pivotally connected with an arm which projects from the lower side of the rock-shaft R by a link.

The operation of this construction is illustrated in Fig. 3, and is as follows: When the table D is in a raised position the beveled end of the bars S lie between the rollers in front of the pass h, as shown by dotted lines, so that the bloom from the latter shall lie on the table directly above them. Then, when the table D falls, it depresses the cam, which by means of a link and arm turns the rock-shaft R, causing the lever to raise the slideways S. The latter raises the bloom up off the table D, when its gravity will cause it to slide down the ways S to the table M, where it is stopped by the stop B in front of the first pass i of the rolls V. The bloom when it leaves the pass h is of T-form, and it slides down the ways S, stem foremost, so that when its stem encounters the

(Concluded on page 17.)

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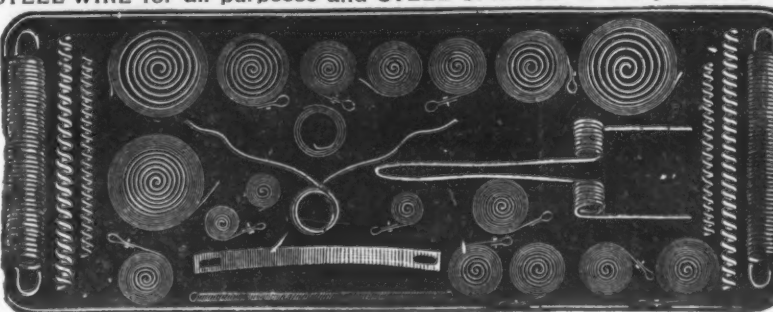
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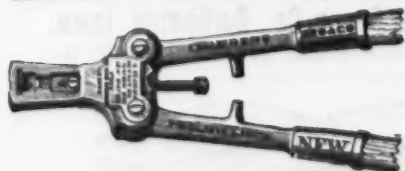
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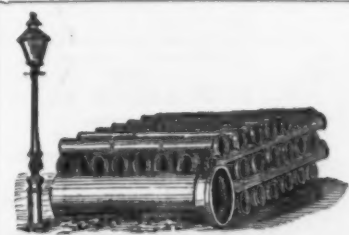
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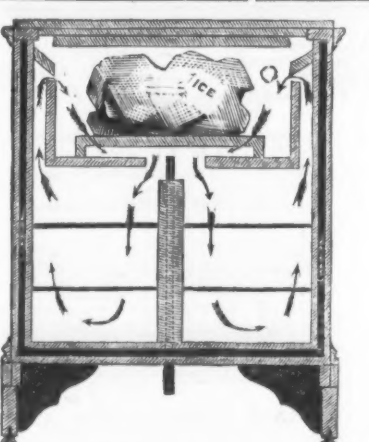
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CHattel Mortgage—Power to Make One.

The Woodard Mfg. Co. was indebted to the Muskegon Iron Works in the sum of \$4200, and its president and secretary and treasurer gave the iron works a chattel mortgage of all its property to secure the payment of this debt, and the sum of \$500 more, as it was constantly getting goods from the iron works. The latter assigned this mortgage to the Eureka Iron Works as collateral security for the payment of a debt. The manufacturing company failed, and B., a creditor, on recovering a judgment against it, seized its property in execution. In an action—Eureka Iron Works vs. Bresnahan—brought to determine the validity of the mortgage, it was declared to be invalid, and the plaintiff carried the judgment to the Supreme Court of Michigan, where it was reversed. Judge Sherwood, in the opinion, said: "1. There is no question that the manufacturing company could give this mortgage. A majority of the Board of Directors may bind a corporation when duly assembled. Corporations may transact all such matters as, being auxiliary to its primary business, are transacted by ordinary individuals under similar circumstances. They are bound also by the same implications and inferences as natural persons; and a corporation, having the right to create a debt, has the necessary power to give security for its payment in any form not prohibited by law. 2. In the absence of any provision to the contrary contained in the charter of the company, it will be presumed that its president, secretary and treasurer have the authority to make all necessary contracts in transacting the ordinary business of the corporation, within the legitimate scope, object and purpose of its organization. The mortgage in this case is clearly within this rule."

CHattel Mortgage to Secure Partner-Ship Debts.

One partner made a chattel mortgage to a trustee to secure the firm's creditors, the debt of each being specified, and he also put in the mortgage, specifically, the amount of his own debt to a creditor. One of the firm's creditors sought to foreclose the mortgage to the extent of his claim, and the defense was made that the mortgage was invalid, because the individual debt of the partner was secured thereby, and this contention was sustained. The case—Walker vs. White—was carried to the Supreme Court of Michigan, and there was reversed. Judge Morse, in the opinion said: "The mortgage was so drawn as to specify the amount of indebtedness to each creditor specifically, and the plaintiff was by its terms made trustee for the collection and payment of the amount owing to each. There is no legal objection to such a mortgage, and each mortgagee can enforce his own claim under the mortgage, the amount of his debt being stated. It is inequitable to defeat this right on the ground that the partner secured his own creditor."

LIBEL BY NEWSPAPER.

A newspaper company were sued in libel on this publication: "A young man named Frank Mallory, employed as a driver and collector by A. H. Gow, has disappeared with some of his employer's funds, and the police have been notified." The defendant justified the publication: 1. That it was true. 2. That it was made in good faith, and in aid of legal proceedings to arrest one charged with crime. The plaintiff had judgment, and defendant appealed the case—Mallory vs. Pioneer Press Co.—to the Supreme Court of Minnesota, where the judgment was affirmed. Judge Dickinson, in the opinion, said: "1. The publication charged an embezzlement, and it was shown that he had not absconded, and that he claimed the money he had collected to apply it on account of wages due him. So the charge was not made out. 2. The right to publish items of news does not go to the extent of allowing the publication of false and defamatory matter, because it is news, so-called. The claim that the publication was in the interest of justice was not set up in the answer, and, as no criminal proceedings had been taken, it is not a valid excuse here."

Submarine Rocks.—MM. Fouqué and Michel Lévy have made an examination of the rock brought up from the sea bottom by the sounding operations of the French ship *Talisman* in 1883. They were brought up from depths of from about 13,000 to 16,500 feet, and, having been cut, were examined by the microscope. The prevalence of scoria as from the furnaces of engines is very notable among the specimens, their ingredients being anorthite, olivine and oxydulated iron. On other specimens the imprint of stigmata and sphenopteris can be distinctively seen. Two fragments of brick have also been found. A piece of common and a piece of hornblende granite are among the specimens, a pegmatite and some granules often rich in muscovite, and microcline. One of the granules shows some garnet, and another numerous inclusions of actinote in the feldspars. These and some other eruptive rocks are found among the specimens, but the metamorphic series is more largely represented. There are 24 pieces of gneiss properly so-called, and 25 pieces of amphibolite gneiss. The former frequently contain zircon, apatite, tourmaline, biotite, muscovite and other minerals. The latter are found to contain, besides these minerals, others, such as pyroxene, diallage and enstatite. Besides gneiss, mica schists, quartzose schists and argillaceous schists, one of the latter specimens containing crystals of biotite and garnet, with numerous particles of graphite, labradorites, basalts, pumice and basic scoria, has also been found among the specimens; besides, many sedimentary rocks, such as limestone, marbles and arkose, were found, and blue globigerina mud filled up the outer cavities of the lava and pumice.

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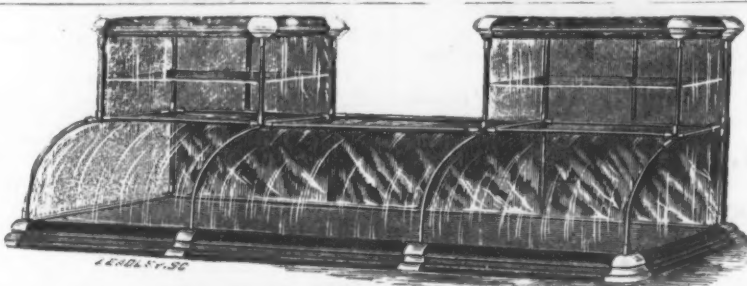
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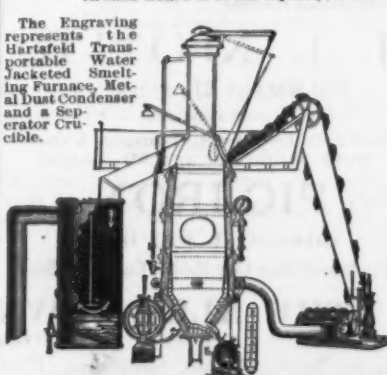


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 a 60-ton furnace; Wright & Homans, of Rapid City,
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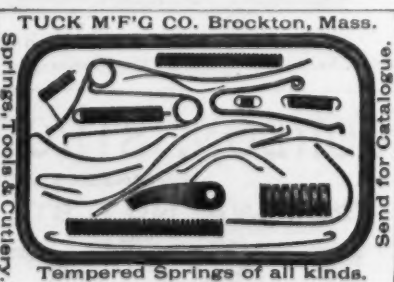


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Fig. 120. Fig. 209. Fig. 70.
Fig. 365.
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Substitutes for Steam.

In a paper on the above subject, read at the recent Chicago meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Mr. George H. Babcock, after an historical treatment of the matter, briefly considered the principles underlying thermo-dynamics and their application to the inquiry.

In any heat engine, remarked Mr. Babcock, it is essential that there should be, first, a working fluid; second, a source of heat, and, third, a receptacle for unexpended heat, both of which latter must be external to the working fluid. In its operation there must be a reception of heat by the working fluid at a certain temperature, a conversion of heat into work and a discharge of unconverted heat at a lower temperature than that at which it was received. The difference between such higher and lower temperatures is called the "range of temperatures," and the engine is called a "perfect engine" when the whole heat corresponding to its range of temperature is converted into work. Sadi Carnot, in 1824, seems to have been the first to enunciate the principle now universally recognized that the ratio of the maximum mechanical effect in a perfect heat engine to the total heat expended upon it is a function solely of the two constant temperatures at which respectively heat is received and rejected, and is independent of the nature of the intermediate agent or working fluid, though at that day the dynamic theory of heat was not known, and Carnot supposed that all the heat received in the boiler or its equivalent was transferred to the condenser. Subsequent researches of Joule, Rankine and others have established the following propositions:

1. In any heat engine the maximum useful effect (expressed in foot-pounds or in percentage) bears the same relation to the total heat expended (expressed in foot-pounds or as unity) that the range of temperature bears to the absolute temperature at which heat is received.

2. In any heat engine the minimum loss of heat bears the same relation to the total heat expended as the temperature at which the heat is rejected bears to the temperature at which it is received, both being reckoned from absolute zero, 460° below the zero of Fahrenheit's scale.

These two propositions, expressed in algebraic formulae, are: (1) $U = H \frac{T_1 - T_2}{T_1}$, which, if $H = 1$, becomes the well-known equation $U = \frac{T_1 - T_2}{T_1}$; and (2) $L = H \frac{T_2}{T_1}$, in which, also, if $H = 1$, $L = \frac{T_2}{T_1}$. But as $L + U = 1$, $U = 1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1}$, which is identical with (1) differently written.

At this point we need to divest ourselves of an idea which is common, and which naturally comes from the terms used, that "latent" heat is necessarily wasted heat—or, in other words, that if all the heat received was expended in elevating the temperature, instead of a large share of it going into the "latent" condition, we should be able to turn a larger percentage of it into power. It has been upon this erroneous supposition that most of the searches for substitutes for steam have been based. To show its fallacy, however, it is only necessary to assume that steam be furnished at 100° temperature—1 pound pressure, or 28 inches vacuum nearly—that it be worked through Carnot's cycle between that temperature and 320°—the temperature of steam at 75 pounds gauge pressure. The efficiency of this cycle would be, by above formula, $= \frac{780 - 560}{780} = 0.28$. The heat expended per pound of steam would be $220 \times 0.475 \times 772 = 80,674$ foot-pounds of energy, of which the engine would utilize 28 per cent., or 22,588 foot-pounds. There would

therefore be required $\frac{1,980,000}{22,588} = 87.6$ pounds steam per hourly horse-power, and that in a perfect engine; but, working within the same limits, in a very imperfect engine, using water with its large latent heat, in actual practice, a horse-power is obtained for from 16 to 18 pounds, or about one-fifth the quantity of fluid. Latent heat must therefore be an efficient source of energy as well as sensible heat. That it is just as much so when working between the same limits of temperature was demonstrated by Rankine in a series of articles published in the Engineer in 1857. And, in fact, it may be said there would be no available energy if there was no latent heat.

We may perhaps make this point a little plainer by means of an illustration suggested by Carnot, which, though based upon the theory of the materiality of heat, is still just as true under the correct theory. In fact, the second law of thermo-dynamics is equally applicable to a ponderable body as to heat, and may be summed up in the well-known adage, "Water will not run up hill." Taking a building in which is situated a tank of water or any other fluid used to drive a water-motor upon a floor below, after which the fluid is discharged, whence it may or may not find its way to the sea level—the line of absolute zero—it is evident that the greatest possible effect obtainable in the motor engine is represented by the weight of fluid Q , multiplied by its fall to the point of discharge. The height of the surface of the tank above sea level is T_1 , and the height of its discharge from the same datum line is T_2 , while its fall is $T_1 - T_2$, and the greatest efficiency of the motor is expressed by $U = Q(T_1 - T_2)$. But the total energy of the fluid is represented by $Q T_1$, and the efficiency of the motor expressed in terms of total energy is $U = Q(T_1 - T_2) = \frac{T_1 - T_2}{T_1}$. It is evident that

the same law holds good whatever be the character of the fluid in the tank. Now, the quantity Q , which may represent the latent heat, while the height T_1 represents temperature, may be greater or less with the same height. If $Q = 0$, then there would be no available energy, for there would have been none expended. It will also be seen that if, in the supposed steam

engine as above calculated, 0 be substituted for 0.475, the specific heat of the steam, there would be no energy in the engine.

From the mere inspection of the above formulae, in view of this illustration it is readily seen:

1. That the useful effect can only equal the total heat expended when the temperature at which it is rejected is absolute zero, in which case it matters not at what temperature the heat may be received.

2. That with a given minimum temperature the higher the maximum temperature the greater will be the proportion of total heat converted into useful work.

3. That it is of greater importance to lower the temperature at which heat is rejected than to raise that at which it is received.

There are, however, practical limits to these several values:

1. The temperature of rejection cannot be carried below that of the substance into which it is rejected—in practice it must be several degrees above it—and is independent of the fluid employed. As there is nothing available colder than the air or water, T_2 cannot, in practice, easily be less than 100° F., 560° absolute.

2. The temperature of reception cannot be greater than the highest temperature of combustion, nor greater than the surfaces of the piston and cylinder will stand, nor greater than will produce in the given fluid the highest allowable pressure.

3. The highest pressure is limited by the strength of the mechanism and safety of its operation, and is also independent of the fluid. As all fluids except mercury attain this limit of pressure before the limit of temperature, the pressure is the practical limiting condition in this direction.

Obviously, then, as the limits of lowest available temperature and of highest practical pressure are the same for all vapors, it becomes evident that the fluid having the highest temperature at the limit of pressure, other things being equal, has the advantage, theoretically, in possible economy. Of all available liquids water fulfills this condition best, and therefore it is useless to search for another vapor as a substitute for steam, unless it can be shown that the losses incidental to the use of the latter are necessarily enough greater than those incidental to some other fluid to more than counterbalance this advantage. That there are such compensating advantages is not probable, and they would indeed need to be very great to offset the cost of fluid, water being free of cost in nearly all situations.

Were we, however, to look for a fluid to use in a "binary system," it must necessarily be among those which vaporize at a higher temperature than water, rather than, as has heretofore been sought, at a lower. In this way it might be possible to attain a higher range of temperature and thus gain something theoretically in economy, unless, perchance, the additional loss in the furnace should offset to a large degree any such possible gain.

It becomes evident, therefore, that a successful substitute for steam in motive-power cannot be found among vapors, and most probably, if found at all, it must be among permanent gases. By a bountiful provision of nature an equally free and exhaustless supply of a perfect gas—atmospheric air—has been provided which has several elements of value in the problem. As it requires 500° of heat to double its pressure at 39° F.—the point of greatest density of water—it may be heated to a very high temperature before it reaches a practical limit of pressure. It is a poor conductor of heat, and does not condense when cooled; therefore it will suffer less loss from being used in a cool cylinder. Being a supporter of combustion, the fuel may be burned within the working fluid, and the loss due to the furnace avoided. It also offers the opportunity of recovering a larger share of its rejected heat to be used again. In a steam engine the only use to which this rejected heat can be put is in heating the feed-water and air for combustion, and only a small fraction, not over one-sixth, can be utilized in that way, while with air Rankine estimates that as much as 90 per cent. of the heat in the exhaust may be retained for use by a device invented by Stirling, known as the "economizer" or "regenerator." There are disadvantages, however, peculiar to air, among which are its bulk and the necessity of initiating motion by external power. The former is overcome by compression before heating, and the latter may yet be provided for in some simple manner.

Air, then, gives the best promise for an economical substitute for steam in pressure engines. The development of its advantages involves many difficulties, but these are fast being overcome. The air engine of Stirling of 40 years ago equaled in economy any steam engine of its day, while the Shaw air engine of 1867 equaled in economy of fuel the largest and most perfect steam engines of to-day. The Otto engine and others of similar character exhibit an economy of heat double that of our first-class steam engines, but they are handicapped by the necessity of using a very expensive fuel, and are necessarily confined to small powers and special circumstances.

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In this connection it may be of interest to note the rate at which the increase of the temperature of rejection demands an increase in the maximum temperature to maintain the same efficiency, as, for instance, the temperature and pressure of steam at which a non-condensing engine would equal

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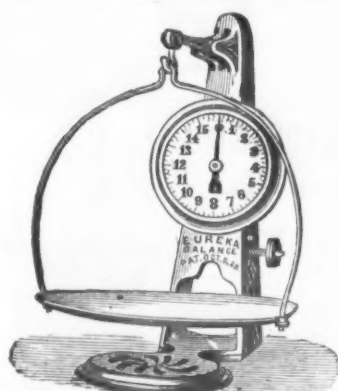
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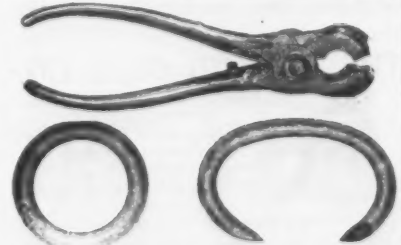


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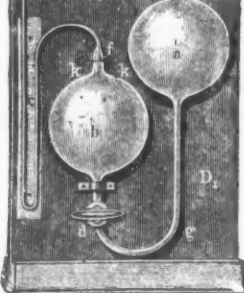
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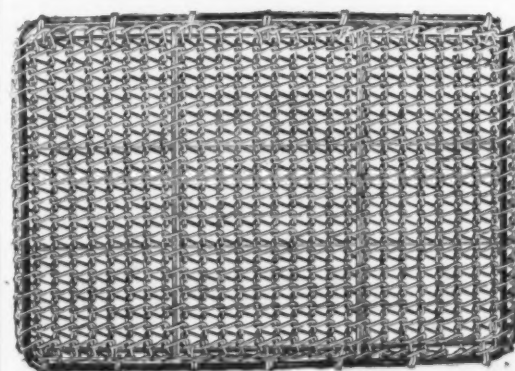
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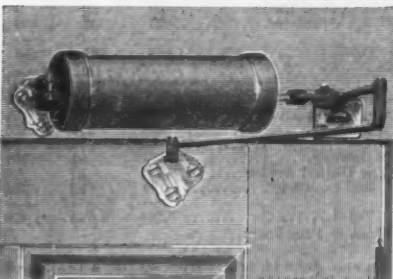
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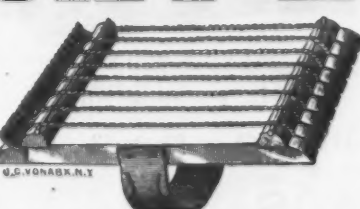
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PATENTED

May 2, 1871.

December 26, 1871.

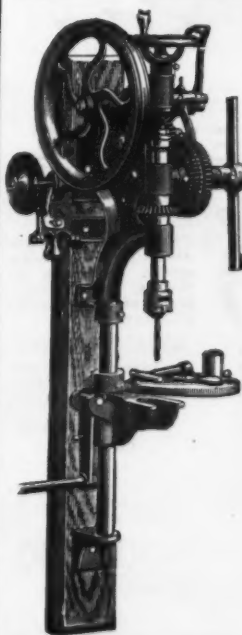
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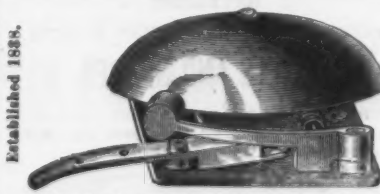
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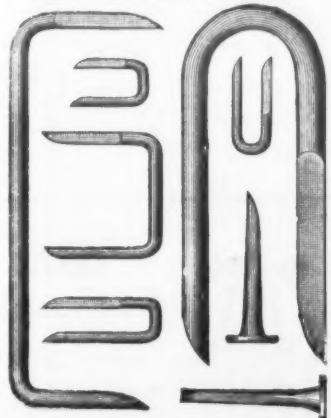
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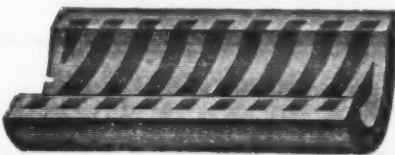
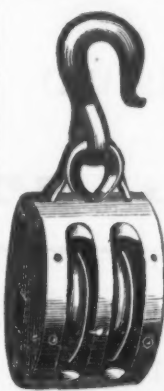
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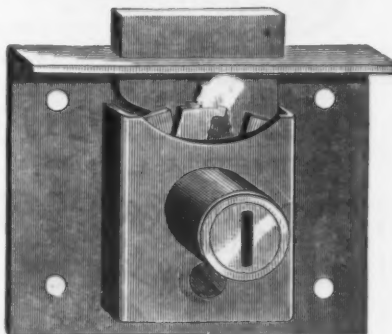
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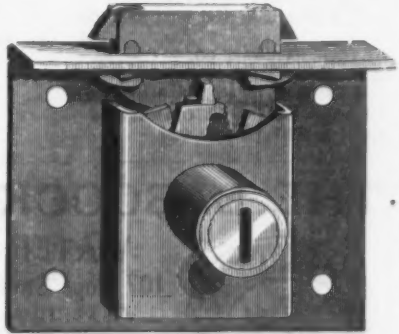
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CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

The Invention of Machines.*

There are strong grounds for thinking that the simple fire-drill or twirling stick of early man, which could scarcely be called a machine, was the first example of machinal motion, though the motion was not continuous, but alternating, and it was no doubt long after that continuous rotary motion was introduced. Whether this latter first occurred in the mill for grinding corn, which passed through the various stages of the simple stone, the pestle and mortar worked first by the female slave, then by bondsmen, and afterward by cattle, consummating in the flat cylindrical stone with vertical spindle, which was a true, though primitive, machine, or whether in some simple contrivance for drawing water or for other domestic purposes, it is impossible to say. At any rate, the first machines were actuated by the muscular effort of men and animals, and, though the use of the latter evinced considerable progress, it was a far greater step when the forces of nature other than muscular were first employed to do work in machines. No doubt the power of flowing water was the first so used, probably about time of Mithridates, though the Chinese used water-wheels at a very early date. The use of the still more uncertain and refractory element wind showed a still further advance, and there is apparently no mention of windmills in the classics; indeed the first authentic record of such occurs of a mill in France in the year 1105, one in this country being mentioned about the year 1110.

The greatest difficulties of all were experienced in utilizing the molecular motion of heat to actuate machines, but the successful accomplishment of this has led to results which are incalculably great. The history of all important classes of machines is similar to that of the steam engine, and the experiences of their inventors much the same as those of inventors of the steam engine. This might be proved by a study of the progress of textile or printing machinery, machine tools, instruments and machines for measurement, modern weapons of war, and a variety of machines of other kinds. Time does not, however, permit more than a statement of what appear to be the salient features common to the history of them all. The first of these seems to be that progress does not, as a rule, take place in the direction of simplification, but rather from simple to complex forms, accompanied by more definite, reliable and constrained machinal motions, in proportion as the machine becomes capable of performing more extended operations and accomplishing them by itself, requiring less human intervention—that is, becomes more automatic and self-regulating—so that the parts multiply and complexity increases. This Professor Kennedy, in his translation of Reuleaux's work, has called an extensive and intensive growth—extensive in increased range of operations, and intensive in increased internal power of action. It is most important to avoid mistaking the unnecessary additions which any inventor may introduce in the particular form that the invention takes in his hands, and which additions he may possibly ultimately discard himself with the progress of the essential parts of the machine as a whole. Not less important is it to distinguish between apparent and real complexity. Complexity does not mean mere multiplication of parts, but the addition of arrangements which perform special operations, or have certain functions which give the whole a greater completeness, as, for instance, in the case of the modern sewing machine, the Maxim machine gun, or, perhaps best of all, the modern condensing steam engine, with its automatic expansion and reversing gear, automatic lubricators and other important additions.

Neither must the idea of any machine as a whole be confused with that of the separate arrangements which it contains, and which in themselves constitute perfect and complete machines. Taken by themselves there are undoubtedly an enormous number of simple machines which in the process of their evolution have been shorn of unnecessary parts. Such machines are of course made more simple by this, but it is the skill of that most complex structure, man, which is required to use them if complex operations are to be performed. Before such machines can become automatic in their action they must be made complex to an extent depending on the nature of their work. Now the tendency of progress is ever in the direction of replacing manual labor by machines actuated by the other forces of nature—that is, the tendency is in the direction of making machines more and more automatic, self regulating and self-contained, and probably there is no branch of industry that does not corroborate this statement in a more or less marked manner. This must lead to complexity in machines in the sense which the author has in view, as contrasted with the addition of complications of redundant or badly-constructed parts, which latter make the machine less efficient and reliable, while the former are essential to its increased power in enabling the required determinate motions to be obtained. The second conclusion which may be drawn from the history of machines is that their progress depends upon the growth of the other arts and sciences. This may seem obvious, but it is nevertheless a point often overlooked.

Lastly, it is clear that machines are not as a rule the product of the genius of one man alone, but of the successive labors of many minds, and are a growth rather than a sudden creation. The same remarks made above might be here repeated with regard to what is meant by machines in this statement. No doubt many simple machines are made and perfected by one inventor, but the completed machine is arrived at even then by a gradual process. In the great majority of cases, however, in which this is apparently the case, the inventor really started from the vantage ground of the results of the previous worker. This was eminently the case in the development of the steam engine. But to take another example; the dynamo, which as a machine is very simple, is quite a modern invention, but before Siemens,

Gramme and others evolved the well-known machines bearing their respective names, Pixii had in 1833 constructed a magneto-electric machine in which the magnet revolved and the coil was fixed, Saxton had improved on this with a machine in which the magnet was fixed and the coil revolved, and Clarke had again improved on the machine of Saxton. The study of the history of machines shows us incidentally how the typical inventor has worked. He has some object in view which he strives to accomplish. In some rare instances, as in the case of James Watt, he studies the scientific principles, but even then the process of invention is more or less a groping in the dark on some of the steps in which the light of scientific knowledge is flashed, while in most cases it is in almost total darkness. Thus, as Reuleaux has pointed out, there arises that reverence for the inventor which is greatly due to the fact that he has succeeded by a process which is unintelligible even to himself. The result of this absence of scientific method is shown by the fact that the lot of the large majority of inventors is simply failure. The statistics of the Patent Office furnish striking testimony to this assertion.

As machines multiplied some classification became necessary, and attempts were made to effect this. Reuleaux in his sketch of science considers Leupold to be the first to separate (in 1724) single mechanisms, but that nothing like a system was formed until quite the end of the eighteenth century; he proceeds to review the various attempts to found a science of machines upon fundamental principles, but it must here suffice to say, though each worker has taken a part in the progress of science, yet no one succeeded in founding a system which has had a practical application, and we therefore come at once to the system of Professor Reuleaux himself, as set forth in its latest form rather more than 10 years ago. The deep and far-reaching principle upon which the system of Reuleaux is based is that of the mutual contact of the moving parts of a machine. In all cases these parts must have the property of mutual envelopment if their relative motion is to be constrained and definite; and this correspondence or pairing, which is an essential feature of the machine, leads to the statement that a machine consists solely of bodies which thus correspond pair-wise reciprocally. Pairs join together links, and links form a chain, and a chain is a machine. It is by the combination of chains that any and every machine, no matter how complex, is formed. This method of viewing the machine problem leads to a matter of the greatest importance, viz., the construction of a "notation" for machines upon scientific principles. Previous attempts to introduce symbolical representation of machine parts had only been partially successful, even for trains of wheelwork, while for general purposes they had been eminently unsatisfactory. The value of Reuleaux's system is shown by the concise way in which it represents the remarkable results of his analysis of machines, and puts the otherwise impossible task of understanding, at any rate, the leading features of all the various machines within measurable distance of being grasped by the human intellect. But more than this is done. After analyzing a large number of machines, Reuleaux concludes by what must be regarded as the first effort to found a system of kinematic synthesis or building up of machines—in other words, of their invention.

This part of the subject is that with which we are now directly concerned, but it must be confessed that it appears to be the least satisfactory portion of Reuleaux's great work, and this, with our present object in view, is certainly disappointing. Perhaps the reason for this is to be found in the fact that the motion to be obtained, though it truly forms the practical object he sought, can, after all, only be carried into actual operation by practical means. In short, the definite and constrained motions sought after can only be obtained by employing suitable materials of the necessary strength. The progress of knowledge concerning materials has already been shown to have always borne an intimate relation to the progress of machines, and obviously upon the scientific application of this knowledge must further advance depend. Reuleaux, it is true, introduces the idea not merely of rigid solid bodies and flexible solid bodies (as belts, cords, &c.), as Willis had done, but also fully considers, from a kinematic point of view, the machinal properties of liquids and gases, and one of the most important and interesting parts of his work deals with this subject. This is a great advance, but still there is an immense field untouched by this system, as, for instance, the nature of the best forms to be given to the links, or, most important still, the actual effects from the contact between different materials, the nature of which very often entirely decides the fate of a new machine. On these points our knowledge is yet far from complete. In addition to mere motion and the question of materials, the scientific application upon which the forces of nature can be made to overcome the resistance to the required motions in the machine have frequently to be considered by the inventor.

These three branches of knowledge now considered—viz., motion in machines, the nature and strength of materials, and the forces which are required to actuate machines—are studied under the heads of mechanism, machine design, and prime movers, and collectively represent the present state of the science of machines. It must therefore be admitted that the statement at the beginning of this paper is correct, and that no definite science exists which can be directly applied to the invention of machines. When the difficulties in the way of such a science are realized it may be perhaps doubted if its ultimate establishment is possible, and if invention can be performed scientifically, not to say by rule. It is well, however, to remember that chemical science only a few years ago was merely analytical, but enormous advance has been made in the establishment of laws by which synthesis, or the building up of compounds, could be scientifically performed.

* From a paper by Prof. Hele Shaw, read before the Liverpool (England) Polytechnic Society.

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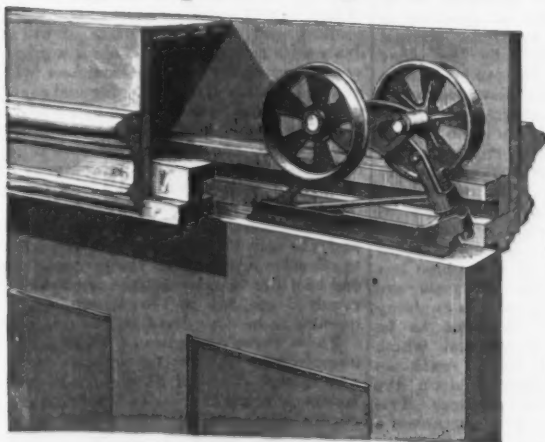
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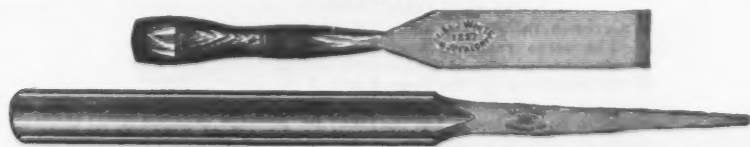
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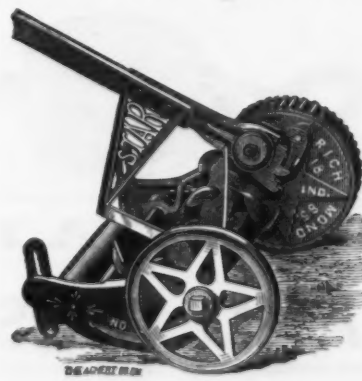
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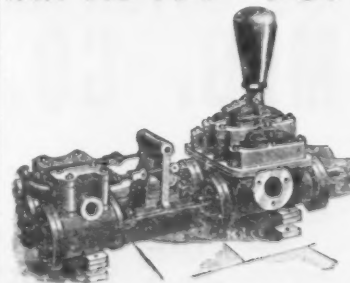
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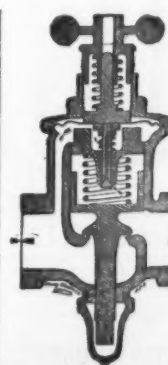
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persons who represent them as our make. Our tools are stamped "BUCK BROTHERS," and our labels have
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Galvanized,

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ranted equal to any imported article in the market. No common grades made. When ordering,
state purpose for which steel is wanted.

TITUSVILLE, PA.

ceased, of the Tweed régime, lived hand-
somerly on the banks of the Ottawa. Hinck-
ley, the cashier, is believed to be in Winni-
peg, engaged in mercantile operations.
Henry Legget is said to be at Port Arthur.
Then there are the hoodlums, Charles
Dempsey, Bob De Lacy, John Keenan, the
Bismarck of New York City Hall, and Billy
Maloney, all staying in Montreal, where
they have the best the city affords.

English Letter.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

LONDON, June 14, 1886.

THE SITUATION

has not undergone any variation of im-
portance, but it may be said that in a general
way the incipient improvement which had
begun to make itself felt in several lines of
trade has received a check through the
political crisis which has taken place since I
last wrote. The rejection of Mr. Gladstone's
home rule bill was regarded as being a very
probable contingency, but not as a certainty,
so that the actual defeat of the measure has
in a sense come as a surprise. It is pretty
certain that the general election will soon
take place, and, consequently, we shall have
a month or six weeks of heated controversy,
during which the whole country will be
ablaze with political passions, and useful
business will be neglected. There seems to
be no help for this unfortunate state of af-
fairs, so that we have to take the medicine
and do the best we can under the circum-
stances. Meantime a great deal of useful
legislation is hung up, simply because Mr.
Gladstone preferred heroics to real utility.
The railway rates bill, which was designed
to check the rapacity of the railroads, will
be abandoned and our English traders must
struggle on as best they may under terribly
real burdens, while the country is going
raving mad over home rule. Then, again, it
appears certain that the new tariff conven-
tion with Spain will not be confirmed by our
Parliament, so that the Spanish opponents
of the measure will have time to rally their
forces, and our goods sent into Spain will
continue to be charged duties from 20% to
45% higher than those levied on French,
German or Belgian products. Other useful
measures for regulating mining royalties,
sanitary registration, and so on, will be simi-
larly suspended.

So far as the iron trade is concerned the
few fluctuations of the week have not been
unfavorable, rather more orders having
been given out in several branches of the
trade. The furnace manipulation at Glas-
gow has given a little more strength to
Scottish pigs as well as to warrants, but there
is no solid bottom to the movement up to the
present time, inasmuch as nobody feels
sure that the blooming out will prove lasting.
With the reserve stocks constantly increas-
ing by from 3000 to 6000 tons a week, it is
not reasonable to expect any marked im-
provement in values, seeing that the enor-
mous surplus must and will help the market
bears to keep down selling prices. In the
Cleveland district I hear, once more, there is
a strong sentiment in favor of an augmented
restriction of the make of pig iron, but
those who advocate it are waiting to see how
the cat jumps at Glasgow prior to again
raising the question. When that does take
place I shall expect to witness another *fiasco*,
unless something happens to force certain
firms into the proposed combination. Steel-
rail matters are touched upon lower down in
this report, but I may say here that some of
the English concerns are beginning to re-
pent the breaking up of the International
Association. In some cases the current quo-
tations are said to involve a loss of 10/3
ton (I do not believe it myself, but the asser-
tion is made), and those who feel it would
like to know how it can be avoided. One
prominent member of the trade thinks he
has discovered a method of reuniting and
reconciling the opposing factions, but I fear
his optimism is wholly misplaced. I happen
to know from very good authority that the
Germans would not rejoin any combination
unless on much stricter and better terms
than before, while two of our rail concerns
are also credited with the intention of "run-
ning loose" as long as they are able to do so.
They, or one of them, at all events, broke
away from the association in a most delib-
erate manner, and they could not well thus
early try to effect its reconstruction.

The present week will be a blank in many
parts of the country from a business point
of view. Whitsuntide is the greatest holi-
day of the whole year in Yorkshire, Lan-
cashire and the whole of the North of Eng-
land. To-day, Whit Monday, is a statutory
bank holiday, and to-morrow is a sort of
off day, on which nothing is done. Virtu-
ally the whole week is broken, and many of
the works will stop, and do so gladly, until
next Monday.

THE IRON MARKET

has again been flat and dull, and no im-
provement worthy the name has taken place.
The blowing out of furnaces in Scotland,
making the number at present in blast 84,
as against 92 a week or two ago, has un-
doubtedly contributed to the small advance
that has characterized the Glasgow warrant
market within the last few days, but the
conditions of trade generally do not in the
least indicate a turn of the tide. On the
contrary, it is probable that more furnaces
will be put out of blast before long. It is
significant that among the firms who have
just laid idle some of their furnaces there
are those who make the best and those who
make lower grade brands, while at the
time the quantity of iron being delivered
into store is maintained at about the
rate that has ruled so long. Taken to-
gether, it would appear that the attempts at
restriction are experiments rather than the
acknowledged results of necessity, and also
that they are but the precursors of con-
certed action that will be shortly again pro-
posed, and most likely adopted. A disposi-
tion to do something is growing among
those who have the most to lose, and it is
not at all unlikely that, should it be found
necessary, a course tantamount to a mild
coercive policy will be taken. This would
not only apply to Cleveland and the
West Coast, but also to Staffordshire,

and even to South Wales. In short,
it is now being recognized that a
more or less permanent restriction to about
25% is the only panacea for the woes
of an encumbered market. At Glasgow
shipments, though fairly good during the
week, have been below the average,
while at closing warrants stood at 39/1.
In Cleveland the ruling tone has been less
despondent, but the cheerfulness has been
due to an imaginary rather than to a real
improvement. For No. 3 29/6 is still quoted.
Of buyers there are many who would like to
contract for long forward deliveries (some evi-
dence that prices are near the bottom), but
holders decline to sell beyond three months or
thereabouts, believing that something better
will soon be ruling. On the West Coast the
situation remains as before, with the excep-
tion that a few furnaces have been blown
out and that prices have only been nominally
maintained. In Staffordshire the condition
which has long prevailed still rules, with
rates nominally as before. The wire and
galvanized industries continue in a state of
extreme inactivity, and the same remark
applies to the manufactured departments.
Old scrap iron has been quiet, owing to the
scarcity of supply. Prices are: Old dou-
ble-headed iron rails, £2 7/6 @ £2 10/;
No. 1 heavy wrought scrap, £2 @ £2 2/;
old iron boiler tubes, £2 @ £2 2/; old leaf-
spring steel, £2 7/6 @ £2 10/; old cast
iron, £1 17/6 @ £2; old flange rails,
£2 7/6, f.o.b. London or other British ports.
Freights for pig iron from Glasgow to New
York by ordinary steamer are a shade bet-
ter this week, being again 5/. Steel con-
tinues in fair demand, but many of the
works are only poorly employed. It is ex-
pected that further inquiries for armor
plates will be shortly issued by the Govern-
ment, which will be welcomed by makers,
as the work now in hand is mostly for early
delivery, and the state of the order-books is
not all that would be desired. Steelsellers
are for the time being rather dull. Steel
rails have been in much request, although
in comparatively small lots. The price—
from £3 10/ to £3 12/6—both for double-
heads and flanged sections is tempting
enough to buyers, particularly to the Eng-
lish railway companies, some of whom are
desirous of letting contracts for three years,
which, of course, makers are not disposed
to take. The order for the 10,000 tons re-
quired by the Great Northern Railway Co.
has been divided between the Darlington
Iron Co., Limited; Charles Cammell & Co.,
Limited, and Steel, Peck & Lozer, at prices
ranging from £3 17/6 to £4 1/; delivered
either at Doncaster or Retford or in London.
The North-Eastern Steel Co., Limited, have
taken a contract for 10,000 tons for the
Caledonian Railway, at about £3 13/ f.o.b.

SCOTCH PIG IRON

has been a trifle better, owing to the slightly
decreased production, somewhat improved
shipments and the rumors as to further re-
strictions of the output. Some of the special
brands are alike higher in price, but there
is no evidence whatever that the consump-
tive demand is in any way stronger. There
are now 84 furnaces blowing in Scotland, as
against 92 a year ago. In Connal's stores
there are about 774,000 tons, compared with
598,066 tons this date last year. Shipments
to date are 33,000 tons behind, while im-
ports from Middlesbrough are 34,000 tons in
arrears. Current prices:

Deliverable alongside.	No. 1.	No. 3.
Gartbarrie, at Glasgow.....	43/6	41/
Coltness, ".....	46/6	42/6
Langloan, ".....	43/6	41/6
Summerlee, ".....	45/	41/
Calder, ".....	46/	40/6
Carnbroe, ".....	42/	39/6
Clyde, ".....	42/	39/6
Monkland, ".....	39/6	36/
Quarter, ".....	39/6	35/6
Govan, at Broomielaw.....	39/6	36/
Shotts, at Leith.....	44/	43/6
Carton, at Grangemouth.....	47/6	44/6
Kinnell, at Bo'ness.....	47/	42/
Glenarnock, at Ardrossan.....	42/	39/6
Eglinton, ".....	39/6	36/6
Dalmellington, ".....	41/	37/6

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS

for May are not very cheering, as they
show a decrease in the imports of £2,165,060,
and in the exports of £244,000. The total
value of the iron and steel exports was
£1,841,689 (although the quantity was
slightly higher), as against £2,007,636 in
May, 1885. For the first five months of
1886 the value of the iron and steel exports
was £3,788,666, as compared with £3,443,039
in the same period of 1885, and £10,426,234
in 1886.

SPELTER AND ZINC.

The following excerpt from the *Ironmonger*
(London) of June 12 may possibly be of in-
terest to some of your readers: "It is by
no means an easy matter to arrive at a clear
understanding as to the position of spelter
and of sheet zinc. As our readers are
aware, the market for some time past has
been weak, and, in view of the fact that
the demand for spelter for galvanizing pur-
poses has seriously fallen off so far this year
as compared with the quantity taken by con-
sumers during the corresponding period of
last year, and that there has been a serious
diminution in business experienced by some
of the leading intermediaries in sheet zinc,
it is perhaps hardly surprising, from an
English standpoint, that values should show
no strength, but rather the opposite. These
two considerations are the main factors that
have brought about the weakness in values,
and upon these some dealers base the opin-
ion that the market is only taking a natural
course. There are others, however, who
take an opposite view and think that pres-
ent prices are below what the position of
the metal warrants. They point out that
the stocks of spelter and zinc in this coun-
try are practically nil, and that if the con-
sumption here has fallen off it is fully equal
to that of 1884, and that if the quantity in
private hands and in warehouses here
and on the Continent is a heavy,
though an unknown, quantity, the stocks
in makers' hands—including that kept on
account of purchases already made—are
considerably lighter than that at the same
time last year. They therefore claim that
the metal ought really to be in a stronger
position than it at present holds, and they
support their opinion by instancing the fact
that the arrangement arrived at last year
by the leading producers, both here and on
the Continent, to confine their output to that
of 1884 has sufficed, in spite of the depres-
sion in trade, to reverse the relative posi-

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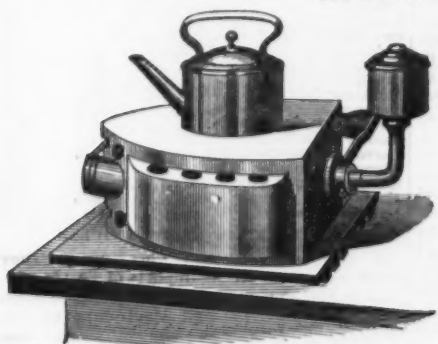
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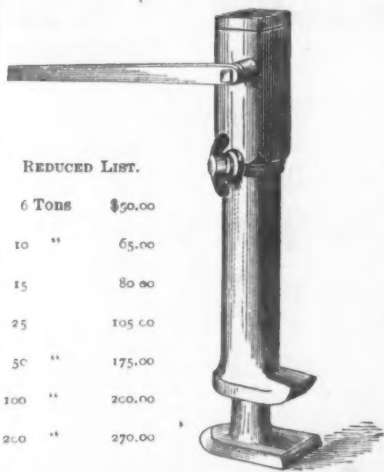
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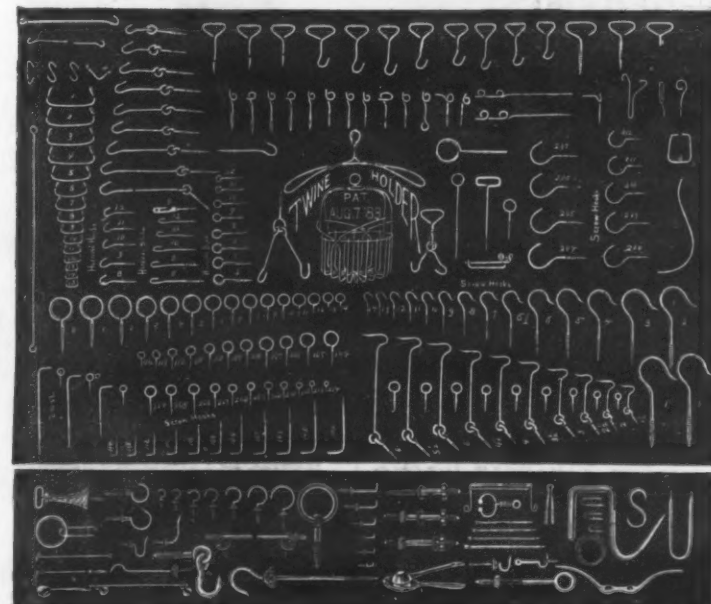
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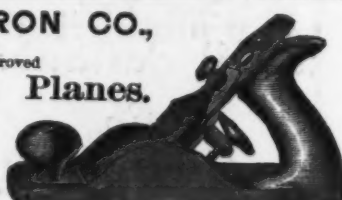


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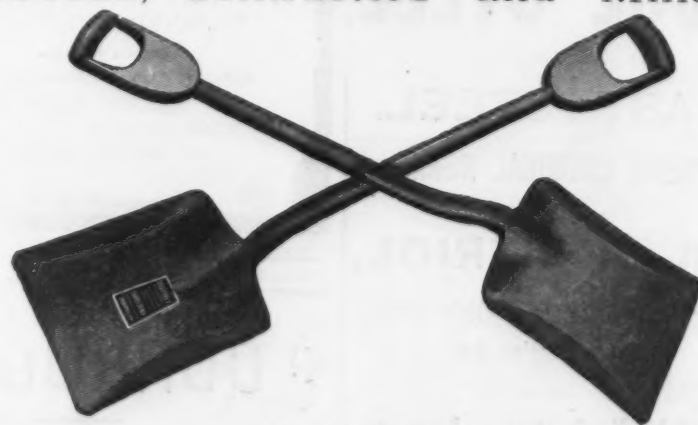
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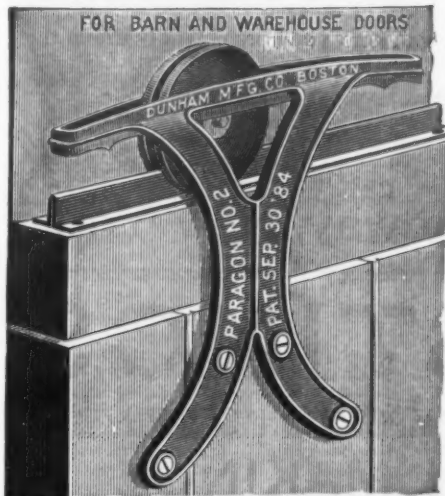
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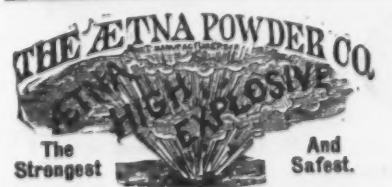
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tions of supply and demand. Again, they claim that the outlook has improved materially in consequence of a recent agreement between all the Silesian and other Continental producers to restrict their output another 5%. While thus presenting the two views entertained, we would remark that in spite of, as in tin and copper, the latter especially, there are certain factors which exercise a considerable influence on the market, and until they can be fairly weighed it is impossible to form a definite and reliable opinion on the actual situation. It may be that the decline has been brought about by a falling off in the demand, or it may be that the appointment of agents in London by some of the leading producers has so distributed the business that individual firms of standing have only lost where the new men have gained, and that the mere increase in the competition for orders has directly tended to weaken the market. At the moment the market in London is dull, with ordinary brands obtainable at £13. 15/ @ £14, and specials at £14 @ £14. 2/6."

THE HARDWARE TRADES.

In London the fine weather experienced during last week sufficed to bring about a little more life in respect of the demand for domestic requisites, &c., for summer, but, generally speaking, the home trade is pretty much the same as it was a week ago. Taken in the aggregate, the business done by the leading retail houses in the metropolis is probably, as regards bulk, at least about up to the average of last year. The export market shows no change, and as a rule actual orders are quite out of proportion to the inquiries about. The Cape trade has shown a little more life, but the Australian markets are at the best only steady. Builders' ironmongers report matters as rather quiet, and, in fact, it would appear that for some reason or other building operations in London and provinces as well are not being conducted even with the life shown during the last half of last year. That this is so is evident from the limited demand for sheet zinc. At Birmingham business on home account continues very sluggish, and even the Whitsuntide holidays have not given much stimulus to the lighter furnishing and traveling goods. In the shipping department there is an improving inquiry for miscellaneous hardware for India, Canada, the United States, France, Brazil and the West Indies. Machinists and engineers still complain of the serious decline in the foreign and colonial demand, more particularly for steam engines, which is by no means counterbalanced by the larger orders from the United States, Brazil and Canada. Mining tools are in request both for the Cape and Australia, in connection probably with the new gold discoveries, and Egypt is just now a large and active market for constructive ironwork, irrigating machinery and furnishing hardware. There is a fairly steady demand for iron for Australia, India and South America. At Sheffield, in some of the light branches, there has been somewhat more briskness in the country trade. Orders for spring cutlery, razors and electro ware have been more extensively booked by travelers, and other orders have assumed somewhat large proportions. There is not, however, any corresponding activity in the metropolitan trade. The best aspect of local trade is in the foreign and colonial department, which, bad as it is in comparison with the business of two or three years back, is not wholly without encouraging features. Excellent orders for steel and cutlery continue to reach us from the United States, and as in each case quality is a *sine qua non* they are orders of the type which manufacturers most desire to have. The Continental business gives but little encouragement, but indents from India are described as somewhat larger and more numerous, more particularly in spring knives and tools. Colonial lines show a tendency to grow again, but orders of size are scarce.

TIN PLATES.

In London the market is unchanged. In Liverpool there is a steady, though quiet, business still doing in tin plates. During no period in the history of the trade has such a thing been known before, as it was usual for plates to advance whenever tin advances, as it does now. However, the present stagnation in prices cannot very well be altered until the supply is brought a little more within bounds and somewhat nearer to the actual demand. Several large inquiries have come to hand during the last few days, and these will all mean new business, as they are chiefly specialties as to sizes and substances, and cannot very well be shipped from stocks. The exports during last month have again been very large, stocks having thereby been reduced to the extent of another 50,000 boxes, which, added to the 90,000 boxes reduced in April, bring the present stocks down to about 200,000 boxes. The inquiries this week run for the most part on Bessemer steels and Siemens steel plates, both with coke finish, and for these some well-assorted specifications are to hand. There are also some good inquiries for coke tins, many of these being for the various Continental markets. The demand for charcoal tin plates, both in Bessemer and Siemens steel qualities, is rather light, good and well-assorted specifications being scarcer than usual. Prices, generally speaking, may be said to be as follows: Bessemer steels, 13/6 @ 13/9 IC; Siemens steels, 14/ @ 14/3 IC; coke tins, 13/6 @ 13/9 IC; Bessemer charcoal tins, 14/6 @ 15/6 IC; Siemens charcoal, 16/ @ 17/ IC, and best charcoals, 17/6 IC. Ternes are quoted from 12/6 to 14/6 IC, in accordance with brands; coke tin wasters, 12/3 @ 12/9.

Consul Warner, at Cologne, has prepared a report on the condition of the laboring classes in Germany, in which he says that the wages of a laborer, whether he works in iron or steel manufactures, coal mines, stone quarries, on buildings or railways, ranges from 47 to 70 cents per day, and if he is a skilled laborer from 80 to 90 cents per day. Female labor is only allowed in a certain limited degree, and is only paid from 24 to 30 cents per day. Working hours are from 6 to 6 in summer and from 7 to 7 in winter. One hour is given for dinner, one-half hour for breakfast, and half an hour for coffee in the afternoon. The Government has no

power to regulate or interfere with working hours, but it takes care that certain restrictions with regard to the employment of women and children are observed. Rent is \$2.85 per month on the average, or one full week's wages. Meals cost 24 cents per day. They consist principally of potatoes. They have also peas, beans, vegetables, common pork and black bread. Once in a while they have dried fish and beef, but more often horse flesh. The laboring classes are poorly clothed as a rule.

The Tensile Strength of Steel Rails.

The *Railroad Gazette*, in an article on the tensile strength of steel rails, quotes the following series of tests made by the Detroit Bridge and Iron Works for J. D. Hawks, chief engineer of the Michigan Central Railroad, on entire rail-heads, cut from rails taken from Michigan Central tracks after more or less service, simply planing off the web.

Make of rail.	Ave. Square Inch.	Ultimate strength per sq. in.	Elastic limit per square in.	Elongation in 8 in. Per cent.
N. Chicago R. M. Co., 1885	3.30	94,000	59,300	6.25
N. Chicago R. M. Co., 1885	3.32	94,000	61,600	.....
Cannell Sheffield toughened steel, 1881	2.70	81,000	.....	2.34
Cannell Sheffield toughened steel, 1881	2.66	80,400	.....	1.56
A. & R. I. & S. Co., 1888	3.18	73,100	51,400	3.13
Edgar Thomson, 1883	3.35	70,300	.....	.....
Albany & R. I. & S. Co., 1882	3.22	66,000	.....	2.34
Griswold & Co., 1872	2.55	63,200	.....	.....
John Brown, Atlas, 1873	2.56	60,500	.....	.....
Joliet, 1884	3.33	57,200	.....	.....
N. C. R. M. Co., 1875	2.81	54,600	.....	.....
Cambria I. Co., 1872	2.40	54,200	.....	.....
Joliet, 1884	3.30	53,500	.....	.....
C. I. Co., 1872	2.51	50,600	.....	.....
J. A. Griswold, 1872	2.25	45,900	.....	.....
Edgar Thomson, 1885	3.28	44,400	.....	.....
John Brown, Sheffield	2.42	43,500	.....	.....
N. C. R. M. Co., 1885	2.78	42,000	.....	.....

The rail of the North Chicago road was tested to 90,000 pounds per square inch, and again to 78,000 pounds per square inch, without breaking, the wedges of grip giving way both times. It was not broken on the final test, but had drawn down so much in the grip that the wedges were pulling through and resistance was diminishing. The *Railroad Gazette* adds: "These tests were for rails which were in some cases practically new, but in others had seen a dozen or more years of service, and in all cases they included the entire head of the rail, without other work being done on it than to plane off the web. The wear is rudely indicated by the area of the section, and great allowance should plainly be made for the effect of years of service on the molecular condition of the metal. But after making all allowances the contrast is striking. It will be seen that only in four or five cases was there enough elongation to be worth determining. The record shows, as appears also from a box of the broken specimens in this office, that for the most part they broke short off like a piece of cast iron, except for the higher strain. This does not by any means necessarily imply that the rails are bad, as it would if they were eye-bars; on the contrary, we know that some of them which are far down on the lists were very good indeed, while others which are well up in it were passably bad. What it shows is the futility of the method. The true moral of the tests is indicated by what Mr. Hawks says in his accompanying note: 'The more I see of our poor steel rails, the more I am convinced that the tests are too much like those for wire rope or cable, and that tests suitable for wire rope are not suitable for steel rails.'"

The Recent British Gun Explosion.

After all the stir that has been made about the recent gun explosion on board the British war ship *Collingwood*, it seems as though little would be done to bring about the needed change in English gun designs. Concerning the subject we find in a late issue of *Nature* (London) the following, which requires no comment: "The failure of the *Collingwood's* gun raised hopes in the minds of many that at last a proper inquiry into the question would be held; but it has been referred back to the same committee, associated with the same civilians (except Mr. Leece, who is dead), who recommended that the gun should remain unaltered, but that the charge of 295 pounds of cocoa powder should not be exceeded. They therefore are to sit in judgment on themselves, and, if they relied on the same data when recommending certain additional strength should be given to other guns as they did when merely limiting the charge of the 12-inch, what reason is there for supposing that the results with other guns will differ from this one except in loss of life and damage done?" Another English paper remarks: "The explosion of the 43-ton gun has led to the appointment of a committee of inquiry, in which the name of Mr. Anderson is conspicuous by its absence, although surely no greater authority on the points at issue exists. A year ago, in his important lectures at the Society of Arts, he drew attention to the want of relation between the sections and pressures, and predicted disasters."

The agitation for standard specifications for bridge materials has only just begun in this country. In Germany a committee of the two leading engineering societies, and of the association of German ironmasters has recently published its specifications, after having labored since 1881.

Under date of April 27th, 1886, a patent for a wire nail machine has been granted to Clinton Lovell, of Boston, who has assigned it to the Albert Nail Co., of New York. He has also patented a die for wire-nail machines.

It is reported that a syndicate of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania capitalists is about to purchase the Valentine iron-ore property in the Kittany Valley, near Bellefonte, Centre County, Pa. A new furnace plant is talked of.

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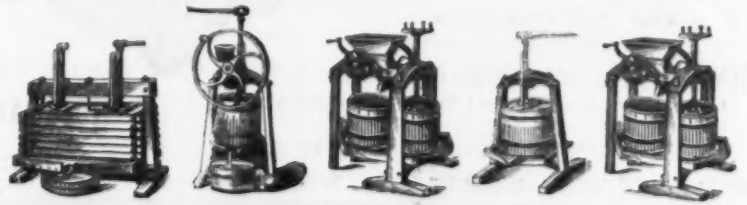


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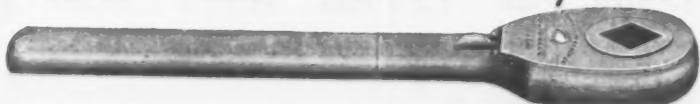
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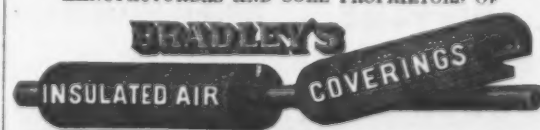
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(Concluded from page 1)

stop V it is turned to an upright position, and is therefore in the proper position to be driven by the rollers into the pass i without turning or further manipulation. The rail-bloom after going through the pass i runs out on the table N, and then its rear end is raised by means of a lever hook or otherwise to the pass k, through which it is driven. As its latter end leaves the pass k it falls to the table M, but in its descent it encounters an inclined guide, shown in Fig. 3, which shunts it sideways, so that it falls on the table directly in front of the pass l. The feed rollers turning in the direction of the rolls then carry the bloom directly into that pass.

If desired a similar guideway may be arranged between the passes m and n. The bloom having gone through pass n and run out on the table N, the rollers of the latter are stopped by throwing the center friction-wheel out of contact with the wheels. At the rear end of the table N is a track, W, which extends also over the rear feed table of the finishing rolls C. Mounted on this track is a carriage or pusher which is operated by a chain or rope. The rope is mounted on sheaves placed at the end of the track, and is actuated by a drum, Y, around which it passes one or more times. The drum is mounted on a shaft journaled in a sliding bearing, and is provided with a friction-wheel at the other end, which wheel is situated between two friction gear wheels, and is capable of being thrown into contact with either or out of contact with both. The bearing is moved by a lever, with which it is connected by a rod. By throwing the wheel in contact with one of the wheels the carrier is caused to move in one direction; and by throwing it in contact with the other the carrier is caused to move in the opposite direction. When the rail bloom leaves the pass n it is very much elongated, and its end extends past the carrier, the latter being in its retracted position, as shown in Fig. 1.

The rolls C have a feed-table, Z, on the front side, which is similar to the table M as to construction and power devices, but owing to the greater length of the rail bloom it is provided at the outer end with one or more friction rollers and intermediate platforms. The rear feeding table is merely the elongation of the transfer table or bed which carries the rail to the saws. In this table there are the friction rollers and adjacent driven rollers of the transfer table leading to the saws. The latter are driven by a shaft which is connected to the axes of the rollers by bevel gearing, and the shaft is driven by a belt leading from a suitable power-shaft. Journaled in the rear feeding table are two shafts which are driven by belts from the main rear power-shaft, and on their inner ends directly in front of the first pass of the finishing rolls C are tapered feed rollers having collars on their inner ends, to prevent the rail from being pushed clear over them. Extending from a point near the outer end of the table N to the adjacent side of the rear feeding table is a slideway or bar which aids in supporting the rail as it is transferred from the table N to the feed rollers. In transferring the rail bloom from the table N to these feed rollers, the end next to the rolls is supported and guided by the workman by means of a suspended hook lever—such as is commonly used for moving blooms in rolling mills—and the bloom is pushed over by the carrier on the track W, which is set in motion, as described, for that purpose, until it is placed on the rollers against their collars. The rollers then drive the bloom into the first pass of the rolls C. The driven rollers of the table Z return it to the rolls, which finally deliver it on the rear table, whence it is carried to the saws by rollers C.

The rolls may be provided with an inclined guide, similar to the guide on the rolls B, and for the same purpose, if desired. The pitmen H and their cranks are made of different lengths, so that when the tables D and E are in receiving positions they shall turn on their pivots and incline from the rolls A, so as to facilitate the delivery of the bloom. It is evident that one of the rising and falling tables (D and E) may be used with advantage without the other, in which case the bloom may be handled on the opposite side of the rolls in any other desired way; also that the table may be used for some kinds of work with but one driven feed roller, in which case the other rollers would not be geared thereto, but would turn by the friction of the bloom; also that the feed tables may have separate elevating devices; also the pivoted incline slideways may be used without feed tables; also that the rising and falling feed tables may be raised by the direct action of hydraulic or steam pistons and the tipping motion communicated to them therewith. The free ends of the slideways S project over the adjacent side of the table D, and in the absence of the raising mechanism, of which shaft R is the center, the slideways, arranged as shown, would rise and fall with the table D. They can therefore be used without other means than the table for raising and lowering them.

Such is substantially the construction of the present rail mill of the Edgar Thomson Works. It has made it possible to reduce the number of men required on the train to seven, and to roll a rail in 27 seconds.

Another fine iron bridge is to be built in Philadelphia at the Market street crossing of the Schuylkill River. Speaking of the cost of maintenance the *North American* says, quoting from a prominent engineer and bridge-builder: "The durability of an iron bridge depends upon the quality of the iron, the kind, and the care bestowed upon it by those who have it in charge. Nothing equals the truss for lightness, strength, successful resistance to strain and cheapness. A first-class iron bridge at Market street crossing can be kept good for 50 years at an expense not to exceed \$1600 per year. This expense would keep the structure in first-class order, covering all repairs and painting annually. Attention has been directed to the Harrisburg bridge, which was built 82 years ago, and is still serviceable, because it has been strictly cared for. Upon inquiry we are informed that the cost of maintaining the iron bridge across the Schuylkill above

Market, which is subjected to an enormous strain every hour, does not exceed \$500 a year. Our information allows for rather more than thrice that sum yearly for keeping the proposed structure on Market street in the best order."

Indian Castings.

In a recent communication to the British Iron and Steel Institute Mr. C. Purdon Clarke, of the Indian Section of the South Kensington Museum, London, remarked:

The importation of partly-manufactured material is at present exercising considerable influence over many of the native arts of Oriental countries and India. The supply of machine-made thread has doubled the village handlooms in some districts of Madras, and gold thread from Germany has enabled the brocade weavers to compete with the imitation brocades sent in from Europe. In some handicrafts, however, the supply of European material has produced a contrary effect. Iron and steel, bar and

clay not unlike plasterers' piece-molds; the third, clay molds formed on a wax model, the *cire perdue* of Europe. The first of these is well known in Europe, but the second is, I believe, now described for the first time. In preparing the mold, impressions of the various parts of the pattern are taken in clay, and these pieces when nearly dry are, after trimming, stuck neatly together, and kept in place by several layers of mud, in which some fiber is mixed. The mold when ready has but one vent, which, placed on the most convenient side, is carried up into a sort of bottle neck. If the object is small several molds are attached together, and the vents united by a single short neck of clay, to which a crucible, inclosed in an egg-shaped ball of clay, is attached. The size of this crucible depends upon the exact amount of metal required to fill the mold or molds; and this quantity being known by experience, the founder places it inside before closing up. No provision is made for the escape of air from the mold when the metal is poured in. The mold and crucible (now in one piece) are allowed to dry; and

delicate work, each link having to pass through four others, and to bear three small knobs or rosettes. These are in two instances but ornaments; the third, however, serves as a channel for the metal to enter each ring. Then commences the most difficult part of the work, each ring having to be slightly separated, and this is effected by painting in a thin coat of fine clay until there is sufficient to form a partition. Other coats of clay are added until a thickness of about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch is attained, when a groove is cut round the upper side of the ring, and deepened until the row of knobs is bared. The wax is then melted out, and the mold attached to a crucible as before described. When cast, and the mold broken away, the chain comes out inflexible, being attached to a rod which runs round where the groove was cut. This is broken off and the chain is complete.

Commenting on that volume of the report of the Commission on Depression of Trade which contains the replies of the English consuls, the *British Trade Journal* says:

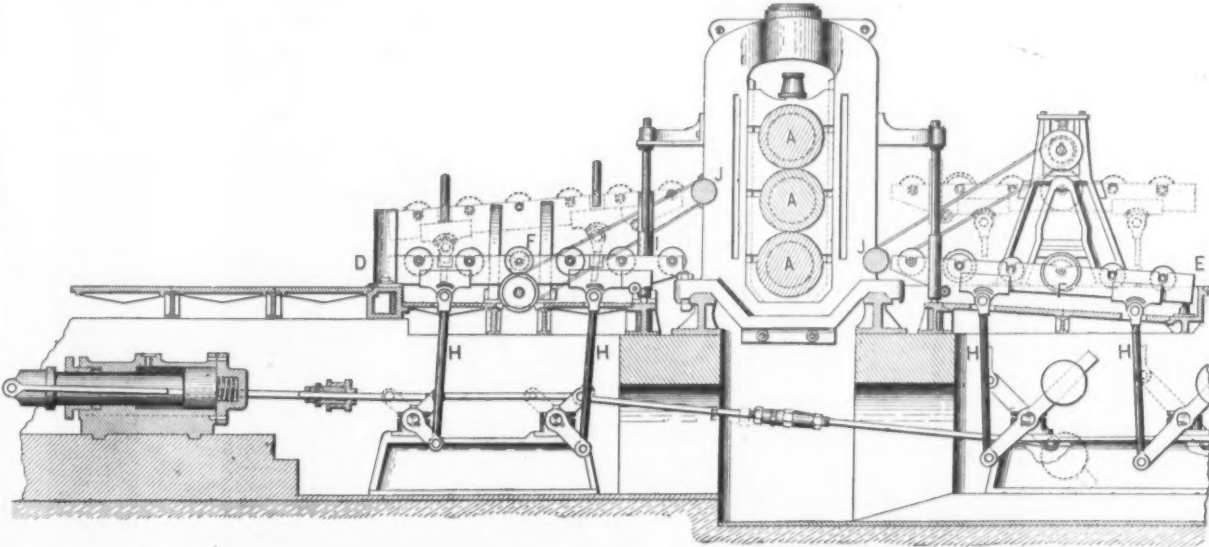


Fig. 2. - Section I, II.

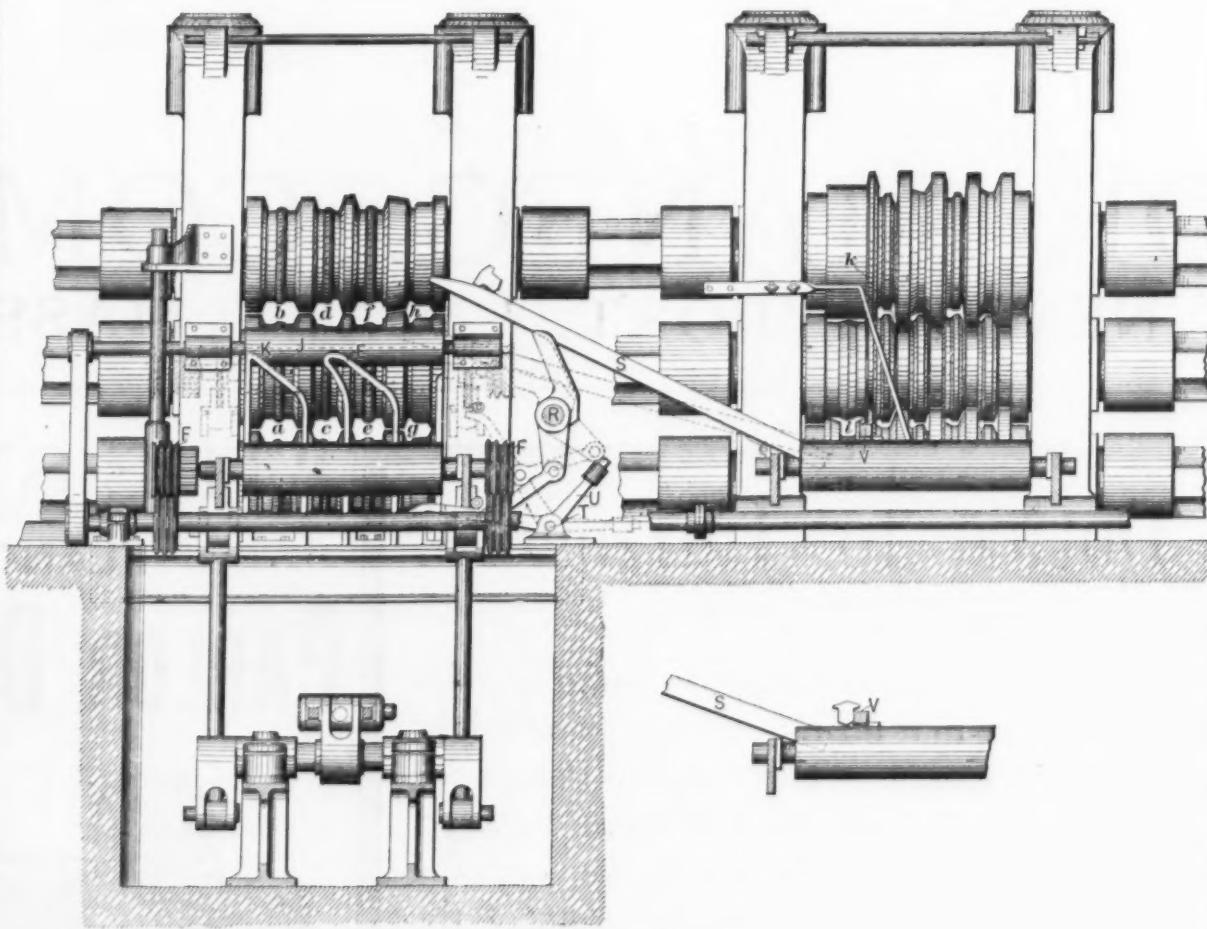


Fig. 3. - Section III, IV.

THE EDGAR THOMSON RAIL MILL, NEAR PITTSBURGH.

rod, have displaced an ancient industry, and sheet copper and brass have robbed the founder of half his work. Formerly the only means of producing sheet metal was by hammering cast plates, an expensive method, only resorted to when thin flat coverings were required for wooden or other objects. For very large vessels, where weight was required to be kept down and strength maintained, hammered sheet was used; but generally the founder was employed, to save as much as possible the labor of forming the furnished castings which required but little beating out, trimming and brazing. In the case of a bowl, or flat jar with a narrow mouth, the founder would prepare a cast not unlike in shape and thickness that of an ordinary flower-pot saucer, from which, by constant hammering, the bulbous sides would be formed, projecting beyond the rim, which would remain of its first diameter and thickness. When finished such a vessel would be nearly double the size of the first cast, and a remarkable example of the native knowledge of the composition of bronzes and annealing processes. It is worthy of noting that the chief means of detecting modern from old Persian and Saracenic metal vessels is by examining the brazing joints, which in ancient vessels are rare. When not found, a close examination will show the vessel to be a thin casting, the ornamentation being by inlay or chasing and hammering, which, being done after the cast is made, gives the reverse side the appearance of chased sheet metal.

So far as I could ascertain, there are three methods of casting practiced in India. The first by molds in sand; the second, molds in

after several coats of clay, tempered with fiber, have also been well baked on by the sun, the furnace is prepared. This is simply a circular chamber about 2 feet 6 inches in diameter, 2 feet in height, with a perforated hearth and no chimney. Half filled with charcoal, a good heat is obtained by the use of several sheepskin bellows from beneath. When ready, as many molds as the furnace will hold are placed in it, the crucible end of each being embedded in the fire. A cover is placed over, and the fire kept up until, upon examination, the molds are found to be red hot. They are then taken, one at a time, and replaced in a reverse position, the crucibles being now above. The metal flows down into a red-hot mold, and penetrates the finest portions of the surface without suffering from air or chilling. The fire is allowed to gradually cool, and when the objects are broken out of their clay covering, the metal is soft and malleable.

The third manner of casting—that by the use of a wax pattern which is destroyed in the molding—is well known, but in one particular case the process has been carried further than would be at first believed, and of this I will now attempt a description. The object produced is an anklet, a flexible ring about 4 inches in diameter, made from an endless curb chain. Such curb-chain trinkets are common in India, and are generally made from thick silver-wire rings interlinked and soldered one by one. In this example the anklet is of bronze, and consists of a complicated chain of 43 detailed links, the whole being cast by a single operation. The first part of the process is the preparation of a pattern in wax, a

"No one can read those replies without being struck by the unanimity with which attention is called to two matters in which British traders are being outstripped by Continental and American competitors, and wherein there is necessity for greater enterprise and attention. The first of these points is the backwardness, the unwillingness, amounting almost to stupidity, of the British trader in adapting his goods and his mode of doing business to the wants and customs of the people with whom he desires to trade. The second point is the scarcity of British commercial travelers in districts where representatives of foreign houses cover the ground regularly and frequently. When Great Britain was almost without a serious competitor in the world's markets her traders could afford to adhere very closely to their own pet ways of doing business, and trust very largely to orders being sent to them, because they knew that buyers were almost compelled either to make their purchases here or go without the goods. But now that the peoples of other lands have entered the field, and are struggling, by no means altogether unsuccessfully, for a share of the orders that are being given out, these old-fashioned methods will not do. Buyers must be seen in their own countries, goods must be pushed, and an intimate, practical and constant knowledge of the requirements and wishes of the people must be secured. Our rivals are doing it, and if we do not we shall suffer. Indeed we are already suffering, because we do not devote sufficient attention to these matters now."

Making Enameled Brick.

The obvious suitability of enameled brick for use in many places exposed to moisture, or where contaminating vapors might be present in the air, has doubtless suggested itself frequently to those who have noticed its growing introduction within a very few years past; the great superiority of such bricks to painted brickwork in kitchens, laundries, courts and cellar areaways does not admit of question, while they may also be used to advantage in many places for wainscoting in halls, as well as for ornamental fronts and trimmings. Such brick must not, however, be confounded with a cheap glazed one, which has been sometimes used, only to open up like a chestnut burr after the first winter's frost. This description is, of course, cheaper than a good enameled brick, but the materials and workmanship that are necessary to make the latter are absolute requisites if one is looking for lasting qualities. But on account of the high cost and the difficulty of making a good quality of enameled brick, enough of these inferior glazed ones have been used to impede the more rapid introduction of the best quality, and there are now but three or four establishments in the country which make them.

It was not until after many unsuccessful experiments that good enameled brick were produced in this country, the recipes of English and German enamellers not working well with our clays; and it is always to be borne in mind that the various proportions of the different ingredients have to be slightly changed according to the amount of oxide of iron, lime, &c., that the clay may have. In one of the enameling compounds used for a building brick the following proportions are used: Fluorspar, 150 parts; paris white, 60 parts; lime, 50 parts; oxide of tin, 50 parts; kaolin, 50 parts. These ingredients are pulverized and triturated to an impalpable powder, reducing the whole to a homogeneous mass, which is calcined in a crucible. After cooling it is again reduced to a powder, water added, and the whole triturated to form an enameling compound of about the consistency of cream, in which is to be dipped that portion of the brick to be enameled, the latter to be then subjected to a sufficient temperature to fuse the enamel on the surface, this being done in seggars, or fire-clay cases holding four or five bricks each. The enamel is usually applied only to the one face or head which will be exposed after laying in the wall, except with those intended to be used for corners and reveals or windows and door jambs, which have one face and head treated, and are termed "rights" and "lefts" when so molded that they cannot be used for any corner. A black surface is made by adding to the above ingredients black oxide of cobalt, black oxide of manganese, and amber, previous to pulverizing and calcining; blue, by adding black oxide of cobalt; green, by adding suboxide of copper; red, by adding suboxide of copper and red oxide of iron; and almost any desired shade or tint may be given by the use of varying proportions of different ingredients.

These enameling compounds may be used on the surface of ordinary red front brick, but pressed brick are better, that the surface may be as smooth as possible, while they should be free from sand, or the enamel will not adhere. The amount of capital and the plant necessary to engage in a moderate way in the business of enameling brick, as given by a contributor to the *Clay Worker* recently, are as follows: "In the first place, it is necessary to have a kiln adapted to this work. It is better to have a muffle kiln, but in the absence of this a kiln can be erected with a capacity of from 6000 to 10,000 brick for about \$600 to \$800. Then come next in order the seggars; these are made to hold five bricks each. They are made of fire-clay, uniform in size, and burned hard, costing at the factory 16 cents each. Next we have the mill or pulverizer to grind the enamel in. This will not exceed \$20. Indeed, any one can make a first-class one that will not exceed half that amount, and be equally as good. Next in order we have the tubs, buckets and cups. These will cost for an establishment of this capacity about \$50. Here we have an establishment all complete, except the building and enameler to do the work, for less than \$2500. With a kiln of this capacity and the assistance of a man who understands burning, an enameler and two boys can produce on an average 40,000 enameled brick per month."

The cost of enameling as figured by this writer is as low as \$12 to \$15 per 1000, which certainly leaves a large margin for profit at to day's prices, but this is counting on the work being that of a good enameler, and such men are said to be very scarce.

A new building material called "asbestine" is to be put on the British market, for which remarkable fire-resisting qualities are claimed, as well as superior hardness and adhesiveness and applicability at all temperatures. It is proposed to make it a substitute for plaster as at present mixed, because it requires no hair, and it is represented not to crack under the influence of fire, as ordinary plaster does, and will therefore prove a check to the spread of flames. Another advantage claimed is in dispensing with wooden laths, as the new material will be applied to thin sheets of corrugated iron, which alone will afford considerable protection. Asbestine is also represented to be of superior value for purposes where cement and mortar are ordinarily used.

It is officially stated that although M. Rousseau, who visited the Isthmus of Panama in the interest of the French Government, admits that the possibility of the success of the canal is dependent upon contingencies of a serious nature, the Technical Commission has expressed the conviction that the obstacles to the construction of the canal can be overcome. The Panama Canal Co. will probably issue a loan of 600,000,000 francs to complete the canal and avoid a further loan.

The *Odessa Journal* states that Herr Krupp is preparing to establish a foundry for the manufacture of cannon at Nikolaief, the Russian naval station at the junction of the Ingul and Bug rivers.

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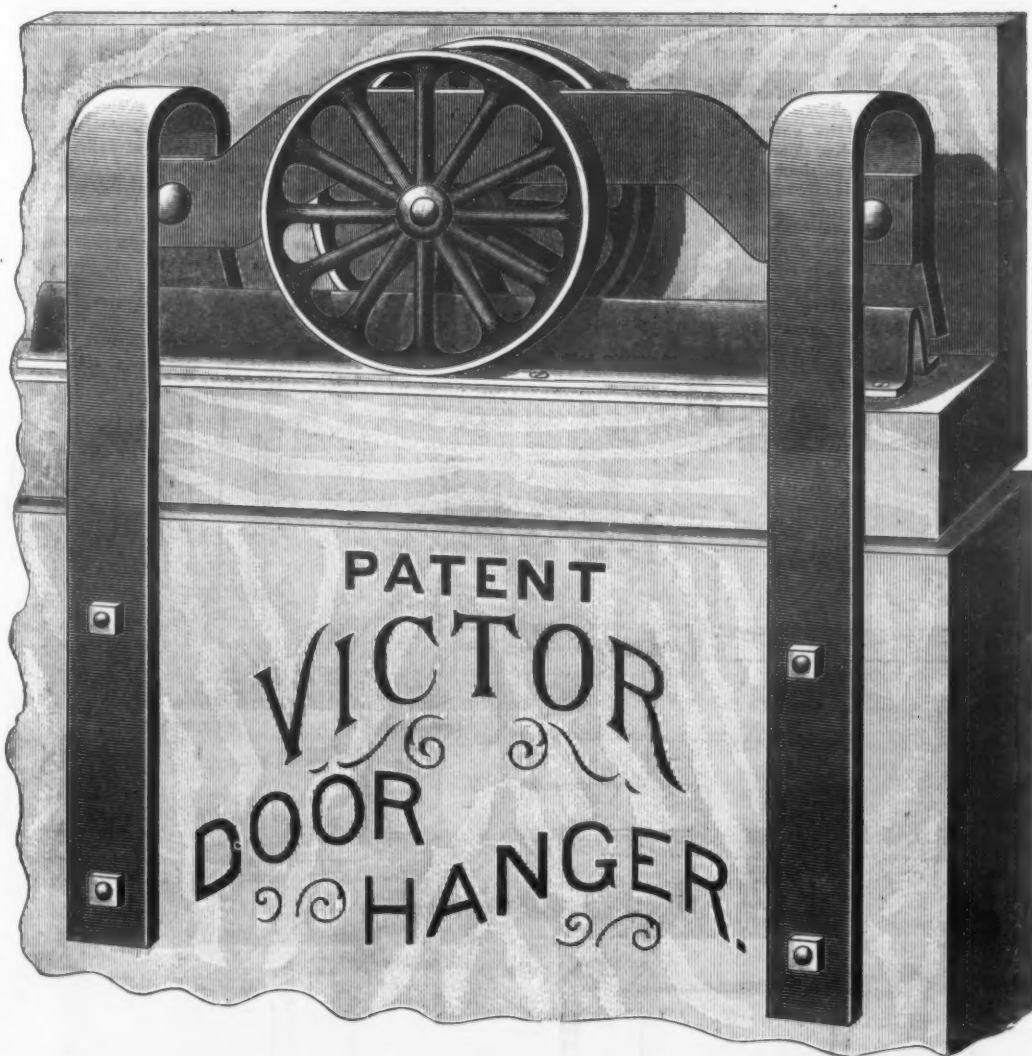
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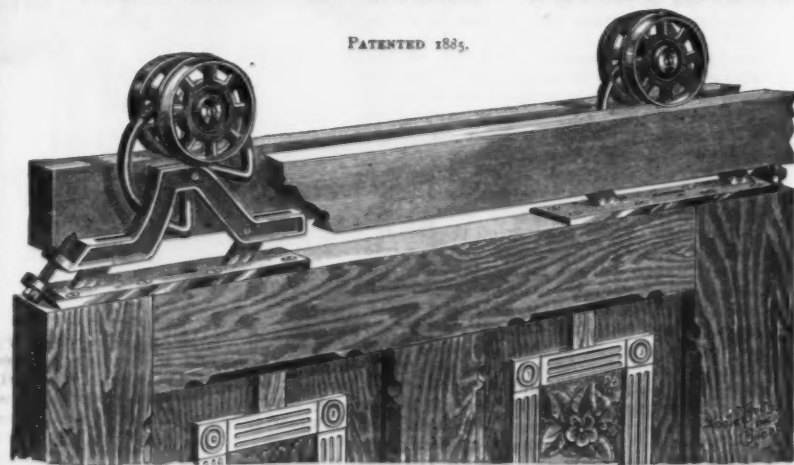
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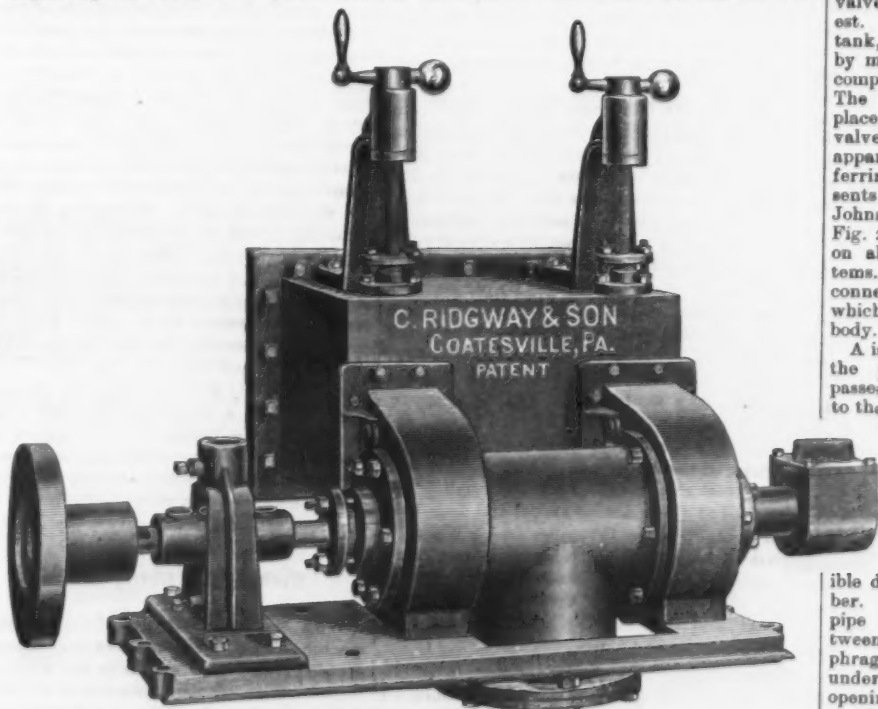
Testing Dynamo Machines.

It is very easy to determine the electrical efficiency of a dynamo. We have only to ascertain what is the electrical energy given out and what is the electrical energy developed in the armature, and to take the ratio between the two. All this is extremely easy, and requires no other apparatus than a Wheatstone bridge to measure the resistance of the different parts of the dynamo, and the usual current and potential indicators. The resistances once ascertained the other measurements can be taken without in any way interfering with the working of the dynamo; and it is therefore but natural that the makers of these machines often make use of the term "electrical efficiency." But to the practical engineer the term has no meaning. He wants to know how much power he must provide to produce a given electrical output, inclusive of all losses, and he can only ascertain the power beforehand if he knows the actual commercial efficiency of the dynamo he is going to employ. The usual way of measuring the commercial efficiency of a dynamo machine is by employing some kind of transmission dynamometer placed between the prime mover and the dynamo, and taking simultaneous readings of the energy transmitted and the electrical energy obtained. Now, every engineer knows that measurements of that kind are difficult to make, and require costly apparatus, especially if the power to be transmitted is considerable. Only the very best and most expensive forms of transmission dynamometer—such as Tatham's or Brackett's—give fairly accurate results, and a cheaper class of instrument would be perfectly useless, as its own error would probably exceed the difference between electrical and commercial efficiency which we wish to ascertain. It must be remembered that the commercial efficiency of the modern dynamo is far greater than that of any other machine intended to convert energy from one form into another, and that the difference between an excellent dynamo and a fairly good one is reckoned by but a few per cent. in the efficiency. Hence a transmission dynamometer which may have an error of a few per cent. would be useless for our purpose, besides being, on account of its price, beyond the reach of most private individuals.

The difficulties which stood in the way of accurately determining the commercial efficiency of dynamo machines have recently been overcome in a most ingenious manner by a method devised by Dr. John Hopkinson. This method was first described by its inventor in the discussion following the paper on "Modern Continuous Current Dynamo Machines and their Engines," read by the author in November last at the Institution of Civil Engineers. It consists, broadly speaking, in measuring not the whole of the power supplied to a dynamo, but the power wasted by two similar machines which are mechanically and electrically coupled, the one acting as a generator and the other as a motor. Dr. Hopkinson said: "Supposing 100 to be applied mechanically to the first machine, a power of 90 might be delivered by that machine to the second machine. Of that 90, 80 would in the second machine be converted into mechanical power, which mechanical power would be transmitted by the shaft to drive the first machine. There would remain then to be supplied only 20 for driving the whole combination. The quantities to be measured are then 20 and 90. Suppose that instead of measuring quite accurately the measurements were 91 and 100.8. That 100.8 waste is divided between two—9.9 for each. Consequently the first machine, apparently with an expenditure of 100.9, gives 91, so that although errors were made of 1 per cent. in each determination in the final result of efficiency there is only an error of 0.2 per cent."

Double Horizontal Turbine.

Those who are acquainted with turbine water-wheels will find in the accompanying engraving some features of special interest.



DOUBLE HORIZONTAL TURBINE. BUILT BY C. RIDGWAY & SON, COATESVILLE, PA.

The wheel there shown is known as the Double Horizontal Perfection, and has just been put on the market by Messrs. Ridgway & Son, of Coatesville, Pa., the well-known water-wheel builders. The cut is made from a photograph of a machine just furnished by this firm to the Du Ponts, the powder manufacturers, and is intended to couple directly to the machine to be driven, all transmitting machinery being entirely done away with. This style of wheel is

guaranteed by its builders to yield a useful effect of 80 per cent. at all stages of the water used from one-half up to the full quantity, which they state they can easily do because the wheel really gives 85 per cent. on all heads over 20 feet.

The wheel is intended particularly for high heads and heavy pressures, and its striking simplicity makes it pre-eminently adapted for such situations. The gates, one for each wheel, are simply flat plates sliding

favor. It is made by the Johnson Electric Service Co., of Milwaukee, Wis., for whom the National Electric Service Co., of 686 Broadway, New York, are the agents.

Before describing the valve in detail we would briefly remark that if an attempt is made to close or open a valve, as, for example, on a steam-pipe, by the direct agency of electricity, it will be found that a very large battery is required to do the work—so large a battery, in fact, that it would be en-

will operate the valve B against 100 pounds of steam. As both the area of the diaphragm K and the air pressure may be increased at pleasure, it is evident that the valve B may be operated against any pressure of steam. For low-pressure steam heating, where no more than 10 pounds of steam are carried, as little as 1½ pounds of air pressure will operate the valve perfectly.

We will now proceed to explain how the compressed air is admitted to the diaphragm



Fig. 1.—General View of Diaphragm Valve.

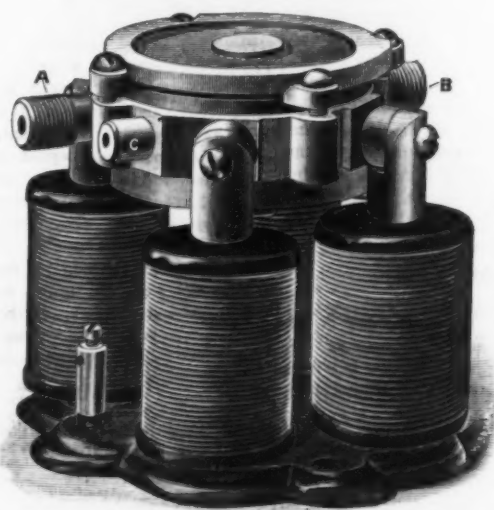


Fig. 3.—General View of Electro-Pneumatic Valve.

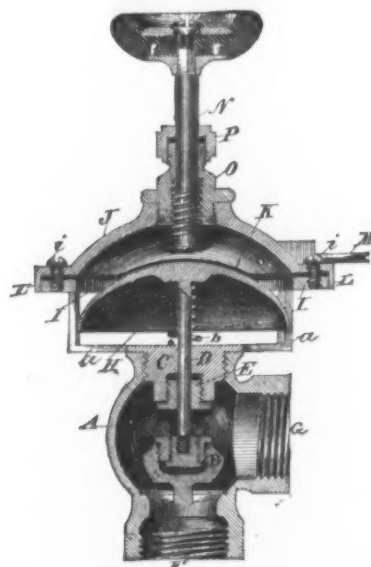


Fig. 2.—Section of Valve.

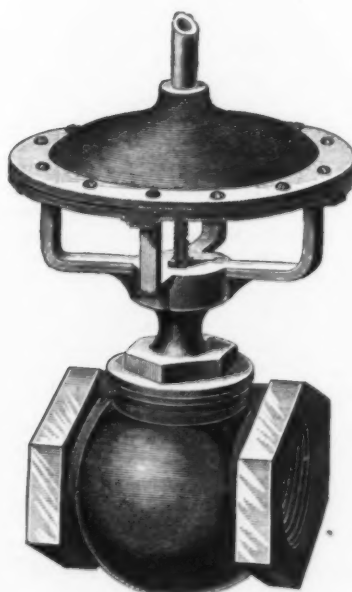


Fig. 4.—Diaphragm Globe Valve.

THE JOHNSON ELECTRIC VALVE, MADE BY THE JOHNSON ELECTRIC SERVICE CO., MILWAUKEE, WIS.

over annular openings, and with the wheels proper or runners are the only parts out of sight under water. There is not a single bolt or screw-thread that cannot be seen or reached even when the wheels are in operation. When the double horizontal wheel is used for sawmills or other work that requires frequent manipulation of the gate, a valve-gate on the principal of the old-fashioned stove-pipe damper is put in the draft tube, and, being perfectly balanced, may be opened and closed by a cord led to any desired point. For electric lighting and other

tirely impracticable. In order to get the required power for operating the valves, therefore, Prof. W. S. Johnson, the inventor of the device which we illustrate, uses compressed air, which operated directly upon a piston or its equivalent, and through it performs the desired work. In this case the electricity has only the simple duty of admitting or releasing the compressed air from a supply chamber. A very feeble current of electricity serves for this purpose, and, what is more, the same quantity of electricity will operate the largest valve as easily as it will operate the smallest. The compressed air is stored in a small tank, which is filled as occasion requires by means of a small air pump. The air is compressed automatically by water pressure. The air tank is kept in some convenient place, from which small pipes lead to the valves to be operated. The working of the apparatus will be readily understood by referring to our annexed cuts. Fig. 1 represents a general view of what Professor Johnson calls the diaphragm-valve, while Fig. 2 shows a section. This valve is used on all pipes on steam, water or brine systems. It consists of an ordinary valve body, connected with an expansible diaphragm, which serves to close the valve in the valve body.

A is the valve body; B the valve disk; C the packing-box through which the stem passes; H is a saucer-shaped piece fastened to the upper end of the stem D. The valve is held open by the steel spring b, which presses upward on the saucer H. Above this saucer H is the umbrella-shaped piece J, held by the standards a a. Upon the under side of the piece J, and fastened firmly to its edges to produce an air-tight joint, is the flexible diaphragm K, made of cloth and rubber. There is an opening through the pipe M into the chamber formed between the metal piece J and the diaphragm K. It is easily seen that if air, under pressure, is admitted through the opening M, the valve will be pushed downward to its seat. When the air is allowed to escape from above K, the spring b will open the valve B to its full extent. To show with what force the valve is seated, let us suppose that 60 pounds of steam are being carried, and that B is an inch valve. In this case the area of B is 0.785 inch, and the steam pressure upon it is 47 pounds; the area of the diaphragm K, as it is made for 1-inch valves, is 9 square inches. If the air pressure is 10 pounds per square inch, the valve B will be seated with a force of 90 pounds, which is 43 pounds in excess of the steam pressure. If we allow 10 pounds as a sufficient excess of pressure of air, it will be seen that a 10-pound air pressure

K. The pipe M (Fig. 2) leads to the electro-pneumatic valve, shown in Fig. 3, and is attached to the nipple marked B. This valve is fastened to the wall or floor, usually near the diaphragm-valve. The nipple A is connected by a short tube to the pipe which leads to the reservoir of compressed air. The same pipe leading from the reservoir runs to all the electro-pneumatic valves. Whenever it is desired to operate a valve A is placed in the pipe and the branch pipe is attached. One of the binding posts is shown at the left. When the electro-pneumatic valve operates the compressed air passes freely through it from the nipple A to the nipple B on the opposite side, and on to the diaphragm-valve. When the electric circuit is again made the outlet to the compressed-air reservoir is closed and the outlet C is opened, permitting the escape of the compressed air in the diaphragm chamber (Fig. 2), and enabling the valve B to open. The electro-pneumatic valve proper, working in the case shown in Fig. 3, is, we need scarcely explain, operated by the four electro-magnets, and oscillates in a horizontal plane. A common telephone battery is used with the valve. This battery requires little attention, and is made up of from three to six cells, according to the number of valves to be operated. It will be understood that the valve can be worked by means of push-buttons from any point desired. Fig. 4 shows a diaphragm globe valve to be introduced in steam and water pipe connections, &c. Where the electric valve is used to control temperature an adjustable thermostat is placed in the circuit.

A small air pump attached to the water supply of the building in which the valves are used keeps up a supply of compressed air without any attention whatever. Where there is no water supply a hand pump may be used. The only pumping necessary is to keep the pressure up to about 5 pounds. This requires very little time, five minutes work per week being stated to be sufficient. We would add that the compressed-air supply to the diaphragm-valve may be throttled, so as to effect a comparatively slow closing or opening.

We had occasion a few days ago to examine the devices at the office of the National Electric Service Co., in this city. So far as we could find, they worked perfectly and are well entitled to favorable consideration. The system may be made very extensive in this application, and embraces features which will readily commend themselves to those interested in appliances of this kind.

Transmission of Power by Belting.

Mr. Wilfred Lewis, in his paper on "Experiments on the Transmission of Power by Belting," presented at the last meeting of the American Society of Mechanical En-

gineers, reached, among others, the following conclusions: That the coefficient of friction may vary under practical working conditions from 25 to 100 per cent.; that its value depends upon the nature and condition of the leather, the velocity of sliding, temperature and pressure; that an excessive amount of slip has a tendency to become greater and greater, until the belt finally leaves the pulley; that a belt will seldom remain upon a pulley when the slip exceeds 20 per cent.; that excessive slipping dries out the leather and leads toward the condition of minimum adhesion; that raw hide has a greater adhesion than tanned leather, giving a coefficient of 100 per cent. at the moderate slip of 5 feet per minute; that a velocity of sliding equal to 0.01 of the belt speed is not excessive; that the coefficients in general use are rather below the average results obtained; that the sum of the tensions is not constant, but increases with the load to the maximum extent of about 33 per cent. with vertical belts and indefinitely with horizontal belts; that, as the economy of belt transmission depends principally upon journal friction and slip, it is important to make the belt speed as high as possible within the limits of 5000 or 6000 feet per minute; that quarter twist belts should be avoided; that it is preferable in all cases, from considerations of economy in wear on belt and power consumed, to use an intermediate guide pulley, so placed that the belt may run in either direction, and that the introduction of guide and carrying pulleys adds to the internal resistances an amount proportional to the friction of their journals.

Small Water Motors.

Speaking of the efficiency of small water motors the *American Engineer* says:

Some of these motors take the form of water engines, especially when adapted to blowing organs or producing a reciprocating motion. Others are models of turbine-wheels, while many of these motors are simple forms of impact and reaction wheels, wherein the power is derived from the direct impinging of a small jet of water at a high velocity against a series of cupped floats or plates attached to the arms of a wheel inclosed in a case, the waste water flowing off to the sewer after having spent its force in causing the wheel to revolve. Such a motor is very simple in construction, and consists of a wheel with the series of floats attached on its periphery, inclosed in a chamber to prevent the dashing of the water, and, as this revolves in the case without contact, the only parts liable to wear are the two journals of the supporting shaft, which, projecting through the sides of the chamber, are provided with oil-boxes and are easily cared for. These ends of the shaft are fitted with pulleys, from which motion is communicated to a line shaft by belting or cord. A very pretty application shown in a grocer's window was one of these motors. The shaft on one side was provided with a pulley, from which was driven a set of coffee-grinders, while from a crank attached to the opposite end a connecting-rod worked a machine for slicing smoked or dried beef.

The motors are very handy. They are always ready when their services are required for either long or short duty, and they never get tired. A moment given to open the water-valve and they are in motion. Simply closing the same valve and they are motionless, and while at rest they are no expense. In this respect they have the advantage of both steam and hot-air engines, which require the continual keeping up of the steam pressure in the boiler, or of heat in the furnace, and also of gas motors, which are much more complicated pieces of mechanism and require better mechanical skill and ability in their attention and care. In fact, they are, because of their extreme simplicity and non-liability to get out of order and wear out, peculiarly adapted to fill the demand for help where a constant water pressure and supply can be obtained.

In regard to the expense of operating such motors, that of course depends upon the total hours per day they are run and the load they are called upon to carry. In their proportion of parts the nozzle from which the water issues for discharge against the floats will range from ¼ to ½ inch diameter; the size will depend upon the working head or water pressure in connection with the amount of power required. The greater the pressure the smaller the nozzle and less water required to develop the power. Take, for instance, a motor having a nozzle of ⅜ inch diameter, with a working head of 60 feet. The maximum theoretical discharge from an orifice of ⅜ inch diameter, under a head of 60 feet would equal 44.68 pounds of water with a velocity of 37.29 feet per minute. Allowing for the friction of vent the actual effective discharge would be reduced to, say, 32 pounds of water delivered per minute; 32 pounds × 37.29 feet per minute = 119.328
33.000 = 3½ horse-power; deducting from this 40 per cent. for loss of efficiency, and it leaves, say, 2 horse-power as the maximum practical effect from the use of 32 pounds of water per minute, or 16 pounds of water × 60 = 960 pounds per hour; 960 × 10 hours = 9600
9600 = 153½ cubic feet per day; 153½ × 300 working days = 46,050 cubic feet per year; 46,050 cubic feet at 2 mills per cubic foot will amount to \$92.10 per year for the water to produce an average of 1 horse-power per hour. That would be for constant power for 10 working hours and 300 working days. In case the motor was at work only part of the time, then the expense would be only in proportion to the hours run, while if the pressure was double and the cost per cubic foot remained the same, then the expense would be less, and so on.

Mr. Henry M. Meyers, of Beaver Falls, Pa., has been granted a patent, dated April 27th, 1886, for a method of manufacturing shovels. He rolls down the billet, cuts blanks from the bars thus rolled, splits the tang of the blank and forms the socket for the handle at the same operation, breaks down and reduces the blank, and finally points it.

The Iron Age

AND METALLURGICAL REVIEW.

New York, Thursday, July 1, 1886.

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The office of this journal is removed to 66 and 68 Duane Street.

Labor and Trade.

There seems to be a general feeling in trade circles that unless something now unforeseen shall happen, there will be a gradual and sustained improvement in business until the end of the year, and that next year will be one of general prosperity for all departments of productive and distributive industry. Of course it is in the power of organized labor to blight this fair promise and to maintain for an indefinite period the uncertainty and distrust which always lead to stagnation and depression, even when the general condition of the country is such as to favor prosperity. Experience has shown that the country is never prosperous when the wheels of industry are blocked. It is then and only then that the country suffers from what is called overproduction. The true remedy for this condition of congestion is found in increased production. It is when the labor of the country is fully employed, and the wage-earning classes are consuming freely, that stocks quickly disappear and manufacturers find it difficult to keep up with their orders. This may seem paradoxical, but it is not. The wage-earning classes are always the largest consumers of all forms of staple commodities. As compared with farmers they are very liberal, and even reckless consumers. A single manufacturing town will, under normal conditions, consume a much greater variety and value of manufactured products of all kinds than are required to meet the requirements of a country containing a large population depending upon agriculture. Wage-earners spend their money freely, and live as well as their means permit; farmers are, as the rule, close, careful and economical buyers. Statisticians properly attach great significance to the crop prospects and the condition of the farming communities; but the immediate future of trade depends on the condition of the wage-earning classes and the extent to which the labor of the country is employed. It involves no contradiction, therefore, to say that the remedy for the state of congestion which we call overproduction is found in increased production. It is impossible to fill a tank by

pumping into it when the pumps are supplied by suction-pipes connecting with it; but if the outlets are closed an invisible stream will in time overflow it. If organized labor will refrain from stopping production we may confidently predict a more than proportionate increase of consumption.

The trade unions hold the key to the situation. This is not because of numerical strength, for they include only a small part of the labor of the country. It is not because of superior intelligence, for the more intelligent workmen are not found among the active partisans of the unions, if in the membership at all. It is not because the organizations control large resources, for their treasuries are usually in a rather depleted condition. It is because they are in a position to attract attention and create a feeling of uncertainty which destroys confidence. They have a vast power for demoralizing business and making capital afraid of manufacturing investments. They have, on the other hand, very little power for good, as their energies are seldom wisely directed. Any conspicuous activity on their part will, in the light of past experience, give rise to grave apprehensions, whatever its immediate and ostensible object. If, therefore, the working classes desire their own prosperity, they would do well to discourage, as far as possible, any present activity on the part of those who represent the labor organizations. The country needs time to recover from the shock of the great and profitless struggle through which we have so lately passed. Meanwhile employers would do well to consider the advantages to result to them from the establishment of relations better calculated than those which now exist to command the confidence of labor and avert the differences which so frequently arise. Shop arbitration seems to us the best thing which employers can offer labor. It provides the means of reaching an agreement on almost all subjects likely to be in dispute, and of correcting the mutual misunderstandings which are the principal cause of labor troubles. By this means the workman will be taught that very few questions arising in the shop need be carried as grievances to the union, and that the committee is not the best agency for correcting real or fancied wrongs. There is no reason why nine-tenths of the questions now discussed in hostile spirit in the unions should not be settled in an amicable and friendly way by mutual concessions, as are those arising in the well-ordered family. This will be impossible, however, until each mill and factory and workshop has its own board of arbitration, so constituted as to fairly represent both sides and command the respect and confidence of both, but without controlling the action of either. When men want to quarrel and fight, no system of adjusting their differences can avert trouble. Sometimes strikes are inevitable, but we assume that ordinarily employers and workmen do not want to quarrel, and would not if they fully understood the questions in dispute between them. We regard shop arbitration as the first and most natural step in the direction of a better understanding between those who pay wages and those who earn them, and thus, while it is not a panacea for all the evils of our industrial system, it will be fruitful of good results to all concerned, and do more than anything else to realize the promise of a large and more general prosperity.

The Pittsburgh Settlement of Wages in Western Nail Works.

As we noted last week, a meeting of the committee representing the nail manufacturers of the West and the nailers west of the mountains was held at the Iron Association rooms at Pittsburgh, on the 23d ult., for the purpose of settling the wage scale for the year commencing July 1. At this meeting the nailers presented the 18-cent or Mingo scale, which the manufacturers refused to sign, contending that it was too high. The manufacturers then proposed a 17-cent scale as a compromise. Upon the request of the nailers, who desired time for further consideration, the meeting adjourned till Friday, the 25th. At this meeting the two scales mentioned above were again presented, and arguments made by each side. The manufacturers were firm, while the nailers' representatives showed a willingness to make concessions. After a discussion lasting some hours the following scale was decided upon. We have added the Mingo scale and the figures demanded before the strike by manufacturers and nailers respectively:

Card rate.	Scale accepted.	Mingo compromise.	Manufacturers.	Nailers.
\$2.00.....	17	18	15	..
2.25.....	18	19	17	21
2.50.....	19	20	18	22
2.75.....	21	21	19	23
3.00.....	22	22	20	24
3.25.....	23	..	..	..
3.50.....	24	..	..	..
3.75.....	25	..	..	..

Ten per cent. off when self-feeders are used.

The scale as signed does not affect the factories which are working under the Mingo scale. The latter expires in February next, and what action will be taken by the works now running remains to be seen. It is likely that they will adopt the new scale, since the agreement was signed with nobody not now in existence. There are 800 machines being operated under the Mingo compromise, which it will be observed is higher than the scale finally agreed upon. Then there are about 1200 machines which have

been run by feeders at the manufacturers' old terms for quite some time. The majority of these works are paying their men less than the final scale. It remains to be seen whether the Amalgamated Association will try to coerce these mills into acceptance of the higher terms by ordering out the puddlers and rolling-mill hands acting under their orders in some of the mills affected, and thus restore the striking nailers to the positions filled by their former helpers, the feeders. It may be questioned whether they will endeavor to exercise what power they possess in behalf of recently readmitted members who have been disloyal in the recent past.

So far as those mills which have been idle all along are concerned, the Pittsburgh agreement practically ends the long strike of the nailers, lasting, as it did, since the 1st of June, 1885. This protracted struggle has taught severe lessons. It has proven that there was little foundation for the claim of the nailers that it required years of training to acquire the skill of which they insisted upon possessing a monopoly. Mill after mill has gone to work with feeders, and, though the product was not at first satisfactory, they have acquired the necessary skill. Even those feeders who resisted the temptation of occupying the places of their better-paid associates are showing that they are not blind to the teachings of the strike, some of them showing a disposition to demand a different adjustment of the proportions paid to them out of the total wages for cutting.

The effect of the Pittsburgh settlement upon the nail market, so far as the immediate future is concerned, is not likely to be very great. As we have repeatedly pointed out, prices throughout the country are at a point where the majority of the nail works are not getting a new dollar for an old one, while some must be running at a loss, merely because their financial position is such that they cannot afford to stop. There is very little temptation, therefore, to start up idle nail mills at the present time, though it is understood that a number of them will start at an early date. Those who remain idle, however, will be placed in the position where even the slightest indications of a rise will make them active competitors, and to that extent the Pittsburgh agreement will be a present and prospective burden for the market.

The Position of Tin.

Since we last noticed tin editorially it has passed through extreme fluctuations, first advancing £4, then again declining as much, but finally recovering half of it. Statistically tin stood on May 31 as follows:

	1886.	1885.
Straits and Australian, spot.....	5,461	5,882
Straits and Australian, lifting.....	461	706
Straits, afloat.....	926	1,480
Australian, afloat.....	779	809
Banco, on warrants.....	940	1,905
Bilston, spot.....	1,228	1,228
Bilston, afloat.....	737	1,059
Stocks in America, including quantity afloat.....	1,960	880
Total.....	11,853	18,409
Prices of Straits and Australian.....	297 15/	290 10/
Deliveries during month in London.....	1,288	1,405
Deliveries during month in Holland.....	560	598
Total.....	1,848	2,008
Banco in Trading Co's hands and afloat.....	2,663	..

In their circular of June 8 Messrs. Vivian, Younger & Bond, of London, remarked: "Consumers of tin appear at last to begin to take a more serious view of the position into which this article is drifting, and we have had during the past month a steady, though not very important, advance in price. The diminution in supplies has a tendency to become more pronounced, and the figures we give below are the most interesting we have had for very many years, and we repeat that, taken in conjunction with the known increase in consumption, the quantity of tin available for the world's supply is altogether inadequate. We have no doubt the course of prices has been materially influenced by the rumors from time to time of efforts that are made to increase supplies; but up to the present there is no reliable information from any source that any new tin is coming into the market or likely to come for a very considerable time, and when it is considered that in 1880 the visible supply of tin, including America, was 24,135 tons, whereas it is to-day 14,523 tons, and the manufacture of tin plates was from 30 per cent. to 40 per cent. less than it is now, it is obvious, we think, that unless there is a 'snake in the grass' somewhere, which the market is not at all aware of, we shall see the diminution in figures assume much more serious dimensions. Manufacturers would therefore do well to make their calculations on the possibility of very much higher prices." Messrs. De Monchy & Havelaar, Rotterdam, in their monthly circular, dated May 31, wrote: "The production of Bilston for 1885-86 (from 1st May, 1885, to 30th April, 1886) amounts to 81,052 piculs, against 61,357 piculs in 1884-85, 70,974 piculs in 1883-84, 70,081 piculs in 1882-83, 66,331 piculs in 1881-82, 78,028 piculs in 1880-81. The average production during the last 10 years is about 72,800 piculs. A public sale of about 11,000 piculs will be held at Batavia on the 30th June next."

The advance in June was at first gradual, and considered sound, the metal evidently improving on its own merits and without the assistance of rampant speculation. After the latter had begun to overtake there in the movement, a good many London

operators preferred to realize profits, and the sudden drop took place. Still the partial recovery was as rapid, because consumers then deemed it prudent to secure some supply in view of the real scarcity of the metal, which from the Straits has been diverted to China and India on an unusual scale latterly, while production is nowhere on the increase, and therefore unable to cope with the steady and growing consumptive demand. The trade seems to have a good opinion of the future course of prices, and this lends strength to the tin market, even more so than speculative manipulation in London and here. Tin has thus shaped its course, so to say, independently of the general merchandise market, which has remained dull. A favorable change in general trade, which cannot be long delayed, would strengthen the position of tin still further.

Beneficial Effects of Protection in Germany.

One part of an inquiry annually undertaken by the German Association of Iron and Steel Manufacturers has been published recently, with the object of furnishing convincing proof that the moderate duties in force since 1879 in Germany have had a beneficial effect both on labor and capital interested in the iron and machinery trades. The figures now issued cover the operations for the last fiscal year of 103 stock companies which were in existence in 1879. Their record is as follows:

	1885.	1879.
Capital.....	364,125,084	374,229,841
Total profits.....	21,270,942	10,275,258
Total losses.....	1,989,857	1,682,254
Balance profits.....	19,301,085	8,592,904
Per cent. profits.....	5.30	2.29

These figures appear to be more complete than those put forward a year since, when the returns related only to 89 companies. A comparison with the latter shows, too, the limitations, so far as accuracy is concerned, of investigations of this character. The 89 works showed a profit in 1879 of 2.57 per cent., while a larger number in the same year, according to the last report, exhibits only 2.29 per cent. The data must therefore be accepted only with some allowance, and it may be questioned whether it would not be found that those who failed to report are the very ones which would draw down the average.

These points should be considered, too, in dealing with the figures relating to iron and steel works included in the general summary given above. The returns for 1885 are as follows, taking in 50 companies:

	1885.	1879.
Capital.....	254,801,722	257,466,022
Total profits.....	10,711,637	5,802,818
Total losses.....	1,390,088	1,133,181
Balance profits.....	9,321,549	4,669,637
Per cent. profits.....	3.67	1.81

Here, again, we meet with the same discrepancy. In 1884 the association reported a balance of profits for 45 works in 1879 at the rate of 2.09 per cent. on the capital, making the figure for 1884 5.41 per cent. This year 50 companies report 1.81 per cent. for 1879 and 3.67 per cent. for 1885.

We may quote, too, the figures for the companies whose business it is to manufacture machinery. Grouping the data of the last returns of 53 concerns we have:

	1885.	1879.
Capital.....	106,323,902	116,759,819
Total profits.....	10,579,305	4,472,140
Total losses.....	630,219	646,325
Surplus profits.....	9,949,086	3,825,815
Surplus profits, per cent.....	9.10	3.36

In 1884 the reports of 41 machine shops and foundries showed the corresponding percentages to be 11.38 and 5.41. It is evident that the greater number of data has considerably lowered what appeared to be very high profits from a Continental point of view.

We are far from any desire to doubt in any way the perfect honesty of the statistics submitted. We have alluded to the differences between the data submitted in the two years merely to be able to insist that, being incomplete, they can only serve as a general guide. It will not do to draw from them a general conclusion that the German iron works made a profit of 3.67 per cent. on their capital in 1885. The general average may be higher or it may be lower, the probabilities being in favor of the latter. The only deduction which it is fair to make is that, in a general way, capital is apparently reaping a modest reward now. Before the system of protective duties was introduced the returns on investments in iron and steel works were ruinously small. The record of the machine shops and foundries is a much more favorable one. While 23 out of the 53 paid no dividends in 1879, only eight of the identical companies had nothing to distribute among their stockholders in 1885, and not less than nine of them paid 10 per cent. and above.

Probably at no other time has so much attention been given to devices for determining the calorific power of fuel as during the past few years, an urgent demand having sprung up for an apparatus which, without being too complicated, would yield reasonably accurate figures. To obtain concordant results with the same coal tested at different times has been practically impossible with the means hitherto available, and guesswork has entered very largely into the various determinations. Approximate values only could be obtained, and experience seems to prove that the approximations have in many cases been so crude as to

make the values of the figures obtained extremely doubtful. Improved apparatus and renewed investigation have therefore become pressing necessities, and are obviously essential to reliability in the solution of many questions of every-day occurrence in steam engineering. It is a noticeable fact that in England, and particularly in France, special activity has been displayed in this line of work, and, while the results perhaps have not yet shown any marked improvement over the material already at hand, there is an undeniable prospect of greater success in the near future. The importance of the whole subject is clearly apparent and should prove generally a stimulus to close study of the requirements for success.

The Outlook in Pig Iron.

During the past few weeks the market reports reflecting the condition of the pig-iron trade have lost some of their monotony, and from different quarters come the indications of a turn in the tide. The condition of the trade has been mixed for months, this having been particularly noticeable where Southern iron is fighting for a foothold or is endeavoring to secure an outlet for larger quantities. Where consumers take only the best grades and are consistently conservative the trade has been very firm, but uneventful. A few brands of Southern iron have conquered a recognized standing for good quality. At points where a wider range of quality finds buyers, as in Philadelphia, the business has been uneven. An evident oversupply of inferior irons has pressed on values, and we have the phenomenon of indifferent sellers of standard pig side by side with weak holders of other kinds. The majority of those producers in the Lehigh and Schuylkill valleys who do not largely use their own product are quite well supplied with orders, and have no stocks likely to prove embarrassing to them. On the other hand, lower grades of iron, largely of Southern produce, have sought a market eagerly. Thus, according to their source, the reports of individual makers, while truthfully reflecting the state of affairs as seen from their point of view, would appear widely contradictory. In Cincinnati and other markets into which Southern iron goes largely the tone is one of uncertainty, and even Pittsburgh has been made to feel the competition from the new section. It has been vigorously pushed in all directions, causing uneasiness wherever it goes, probably far out of proportion to the importance of the share of the market which it seeks to secure. From the Northwest come, as usual, the harbingers of better times. Both Chicago and Detroit have begun to feel greater activity, and it depends largely upon the developments of the next four or six weeks whether this movement will grow in strength and will spread to other parts of the country. We are producing pig iron at a very heavy rate, but it must not be forgotten that much of the increase during the past six months is due principally to heavy requirements of the rail mills, which still occupy an isolated position of prosperity. The figures are not available upon which to base a comparison, but the large sales of rails to date, fully 1,150,000 tons, as compared with a total output of 959,471 tons in 1885, justify the rough estimate that at least 450,000 tons of pig iron more will go into that form of manufacture than did last year. A part of this, of course, has been covered by imports of foreign iron, among which is the Spanish lot of 30,000 tons of Bessemer pig, the recent arrival of which has attracted so much attention. Still, taking into account this circumstance, it cannot be questioned that consumption has not been called to deal with so large an increase in foundry and forge iron as a superficial examination of recent blast-furnace statistics might be thought to show. While there has been an increase, accounts from all sections of the country agree substantially in representing the stocks to be light. Surveying the field generally it will be conceded that, so far as pig iron is concerned, the situation is fairly favorable. The period of dullness growing out of the labor strikes appears only to have stayed a movement to a higher level. It could not materially weaken the producers of standard qualities. On the other hand, any moderately sustained impulse given to the trade by a quickened demand would create a rising tendency. We are on the threshold of the time when this movement generally makes its appearance, and if the past be accepted as a guide to the future the first indications will come from the West.

Mechanical Refrigeration.

With the various types of refrigerating machines now in common use the reduction of temperature, as generally known, is obtained either by the expansion of air or by the passing into the gaseous state of various simple volatile liquids, such as sulphurous acid, ammonia and sulphuric ether. No chemical action whatever occurs in the operation of these machines, and Mr. Raoul Pictet, who is well known from his work in connection with them, has found that whatever be the liquid employed, as in the latter case, the power required in compressing is constant for the same difference of temperature between the compression and expansion cylinders and for the same cooling effect. An entirely different condition, however, presents itself if, in place of a single

volatile liquid, we use a mixture, capable of being separated into two or more liquids by a lowered temperature, and of combining intimately on a rise in temperature. In that case the relation between the different vapor tensions and the corresponding temperatures no longer bears any similarity to that observed with the simple liquids.

In a paper published in one of the German chemical journals some time ago Mr. Picet undertook to show to what extent this was borne out by practical results, and directed attention to the common law that the combination of oxygen with any desired molecule of a volatile liquid decreased its volatility and raised its boiling point. Thus carbonic oxide (CO) boils at a temperature of -140° C. and carbonic acid (CO₂) at -75° ; sulphurous acid (H₂SO₃) at -10° , and sulphuric acid (H₂SO₄) at $+32^{\circ}$; nitrogen (N) again boils at -180° , while hyponitric acid boils at $+25^{\circ}$ and nitric acid (HNO₃) at $+50^{\circ}$. Following this law Mr. Picet oxidizes carbonic acid by the addition of sulphurous acid, and thus obtains a line of highly volatile liquids with boiling points ranging from -71° to -7.5° . With these liquids is observed the common property of a complete combination of the component parts at high temperatures and a decomposition at low temperatures into different volatile products, each of which liberates its own special gas. The sum of the tensions of these gases largely exceeds the tension of the gas evolved by a simple volatile liquid, but at the higher temperature the several liquids are united into one, and the maximum tension of the gases is then appreciably reduced, owing to the special relations developed. Mr. Picet has compiled a table in which the tensions of S CO, and of SO₂ are compared between the temperatures of -30° and $+50^{\circ}$. From this we take the following figures:

	S CO, Atmospheres.	SO ₂ , Atmospheres.
Tensions at -30°	0.77	0.36
Tensions at -20°	0.98	0.61
Tensions at -10°	1.53	1.51
Tensions at $+0^{\circ}$	3.40	3.30
Tensions at $+10^{\circ}$	4.45	4.50
Tensions at $+20^{\circ}$	5.72	6.30
Tensions at $+30^{\circ}$	6.86	8.30

These show that at the higher temperatures the tensions of the combined gases are much lower than those of one of the gases alone.

From all this it is concluded that if the liquid S CO₂ be used in a refrigerating machine the tension of the vapors in the expansion cylinder will be considerably higher than that of the sulphurous acid vapors, for example, while the tension during compression, when the vapors are again brought to the liquid state, will also be lower. There would accordingly be a saving in the work of compression, and the formation of these new volatile liquids, it is argued, would thus present a yet undeveloped line of work in connection with refrigerating machinery. There is an apparent anomaly in all this which may at first give rise to some confusion, but much of which will be found to disappear on careful consideration of the various points involved.

North vs. South for Cheap Iron Making.

To the Editor of The Iron Age: DEAR SIR—So much has been written and said for the past 10 years in regard to the abundance of cheap raw materials all over the South, especially when referring to West Virginia and Alabama, and so many flourishing accounts have been made, that it has actually had the effect to retard somewhat the operations in some of the older iron-making districts, perhaps to the advantage of the too many that have kept fully running. But it is quite surprising that we do not hear of more dividend-paying concerns from those establishments that have been making pig iron for \$9, \$10 and \$11 per ton. Quite a respectable number of pig-iron makers North have made dividends with pig iron averaging for the past 10 years about \$16.75, f.o.b. on cars at furnaces, or \$17.75 at tide-water. Now if it is true, as it doubtless is, in regard to the cost of production at several points, proved and to be proved, South, that Nos. 1 and 2 pig iron can be put on the cars at furnaces at from \$10 to \$11 per ton, and the transportation of it to leading markets North and West will not exceed an excess of over \$2.50 per ton over the cost of transporting to the same points from Pennsylvania and other furnaces North, then most certainly there would seem to be cause for an exodus of ironmen and capital to these new regions at once. But will the raw material hold out so cheap? What is the history of the cost of mining ores between new workings and old? What is the history of the wages of labor in any section after a certain amount of local population is all taken up and more is required? Any one who is conversant with the subject for a period of from 20 to 40 years in mining iron ores or coal, or manufacturing iron in any form, can answer very well. The writer has been over a considerable portion of the great metalliferous belt from Canada through New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia to near the Tennessee line, several times in the past 36 years, and is very willing to acknowledge the existence of some grand localities in all these places, and some of the very best have not yet been utilized. Yet it is very doubtful if any location has yet been discovered where a steel rail can be made cheaper than it is now produced at any of the large mills in Pennsylvania, or may yet be done on the Hudson or in the West. A great fact must not be overlooked. Where is most iron used? and where will it be used during the next decade or two? And the freight charges on it—what will they be? It is safe to state that for all uses to which iron is put fully three-fourths is laid in tracks or used for machinery building, &c., north of 38° north

latitude in our own country, and this is likely to continue for a decade or two, for very many good reasons. The six great States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana combined do not use or require as many tons yearly as the single States of Ohio, Pennsylvania or Illinois. Hence, (though perhaps no fault of their own) the fact remains that these States cannot for a long time to come have the ability to buy—nor in reality the need of—large quantities, nor can some of them expect to have a credit they might be entitled to, until some provision shall have been made to satisfy honest and innocent holders of some of their defaulted bonds. To build railroads or make extensive internal improvements requires either cash in hand or good credit. It may be true that for some of the defaulted debts of these States the State itself did not get full value. Neither did New York City for the debt incurred under the Tweed ring management; yet New York pays the debt, principal and interest, and enjoys a high credit by reason of such action. The moral of the whole matter is that the States, municipalities or corporations that pay their debts have good credit and can float their 3 or 4 per cent. bonds at a premium, and they thus attract both new capital, skill and labor. The combination of these three items is just what is wanting in several portions of the South to give permanent prosperity. Very truly,

JUNE 23, 1886.

METALLURGICAL.

The Shortness of Iron and Steel at a Blue Heat.

A number of earlier writers, and later Valtou, Walrand, Huston and Kollmann, have in turn called attention to the property of iron and steel to show a remarkable lowering in tenacity at certain temperatures, approaching a blue heat. Professor Ledebur, of the Freiberg School of Mines, in *Glaser's Annalen für Gewerbe und Bau Wesen* cites an instance in which a breakdown may, according to his view of the case, be attributed to the fact that the material was made at this dangerous heat. A new pump rod was put in at a mine, Bessemer steel being chosen, which showed a tenacity of nearly 50 kg. per square millimeter, or 70,000 pounds per square inch, and an elongation of 20 per cent. The rods had an ample section for the duty, and yet one of them soon broke after being put in, and a number of other breaks followed within a year. On examining the fractures it was shown that a fine crack running vertically to the axis of the rod had existed before the break took place, the smooth surface of what had been the crack contrasting plainly with the characteristic fine texture of the actual fracture. Etching the polished surface of a break did not develop anything in particular except a number of small fine blow-holes growing more numerous toward the center. Their presence could not, however, be held to account for the breaks. A careful analysis of two of the broken rods showed the following composition:

	No. 1.	No. 2.
Carbon.....	0.309	0.236
Silicon.....	0.060	0.256
Phosphorus.....	0.045	0.009
Sulphur.....	0.045	0.040
Arsenic.....	0.048	0.045
Antimony.....	0.045	0.031
Copper.....	0.101	0.095
Manganese.....	0.430	0.630

The only somewhat remarkable fact in connection with these analyses were the comparatively high arsenic and antimony, which, together with the sulphur and the copper, might be regarded as the source of some red-shortness. In order to obtain certainty on this point, samples of the rods were sent to two different iron works with the request that they be carefully examined for their welding properties. No. 1 showed only a faint trace of red-shortness under very rigid tests, and No. 2 indicated none whatever. Professor Ledebur holds, therefore, that the rods were probably worked at the dangerous blue heat.

Uniformity of Open-Hearth Steel.

Mr. George E. Thackray, of Pittsburgh, during the discussion of a paper by Mr. H. M. Howe at the Bethlehem meeting of the Institute of Mining Engineers, gave some data to show the uniformity of open-hearth steel. The first lot comprised 73 consecutive heats of steel containing 0.18 per cent. carbon, and was made on an order for structural plates. The second lot comprises 26 consecutive heats of steel for boiler plate, containing from 0.13 to 0.16 per cent. carbon, to suit different requirements. The average deviation of carbon is found by taking the difference between the desired and obtained carbon contents of each heat, taking the arithmetical sum of such differences, and dividing this sum by the number of heats. The results were as follows: 1. The average deviation of carbon of 73 consecutive heats of open-hearth steel, containing 0.18 per cent. carbon, was found to be 0.0068 per cent. 2. The average deviation of carbon of 26 consecutive heats of boiler-plate steel was found to be 0.0033 per cent.

High-Silicon Steels.

Three patents have been granted, under date of June 1, 1886, to Robert Hatfield, of Sheffield, England, whose high-manganese steel has attracted so much attention during the past year. The first of Mr. Hatfield's patents relates to a high-silicon steel. He claims to have discovered that if 1.5 to 5 per cent. of silicon is present in steel the product is not only of superior quality, but that the presence of sulphur and phosphorus is of no disadvantage. He introduces the silicon by means of a special silicon pig. He claims for this high-silicon steel special advantages, using the following language in his specification: "My improved steel thus manufactured possesses, after tempering, peculiar hardness (depending in degree on the amount of silicon which it contains), so that it is specially adapted for what are known as 'tool-steel' purposes, edge tools, &c. It has also other peculiar and valuable characteristics, among which I would mention that it has great toughness compared with the tool steel now used. It is more waxy

and malleable in working when heated than high-carbon steel, and is therefore more readily shaped under the hammer, and when cold is more easily cut and tooled than ordinary steel. It is not so brittle as ordinary steel, and is less liable to be burned in heating, and to what is known as 'water-cracking.' It is also susceptible of hardening and tempering by the same methods and with substantially the same effect as carbon steel."

In a second patent he claims as a new article of manufacture steel containing in combination both carbon and silicon in the proportions of from 0.25 to 2.5 per cent. of carbon and 0.75 to 1.5 per cent. of silicon. Mr. Hatfield puts forward his pretensions to novelty as follows: "I have discovered, however, that by adding silicon to iron in certain proportions—say above $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent. of silicon—the same capacity for hardening and tempering is acquired by the iron with which it is incorporated as is given to iron by the addition of carbon only in the ordinary steel-making processes heretofore practiced, with this peculiar advantage, however, in favor of silicon and carbon over carbon only, that the steel made with silicon and carbon instead of carbon only is softer and more easily worked before tempering, and becomes harder, though less brittle, after tempering than carbon steel. I have also discovered that when the silicon is present in sufficient quantity—say $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.—I can use as my carbon addition white hematite iron of such a comparatively low grade as is now unfit for steel-making, owing to its high sulphur; consequently, the silicon is found to neutralize the injurious effects of sulphur and phosphorus, and I thus obtain a steel giving the same results as the high-class steels made from expensive foreign and other iron substantially free from these ingredients—sulphur and phosphorus. This remark also applies to the presence of sulphur and phosphorus in any part of the charge from which my steel is made, the resulting steel product being of very superior quality, although made with comparatively cheap materials."

Basic Steel for Shipbuilding.

Mr. B. Martell, of Lloyd's spoke as follows in a recent paper read by him before one of the English societies:

I cannot conclude without a passing reference to recent experience as to the suitability of steel produced by the basic process for shipbuilding purposes. There is no doubt that mild steel is being produced by this process of a reliable quality at a comparatively low tensile strength, and well suited for many purposes to which it can be applied; but experience has abundantly proved that up to the present time basic steel has not been produced possessing those uniformly ductile and reliable qualities at high tensile strength necessary for shipbuilding purposes. Some time ago some vessels were being built in Germany under the inspection of Lloyd's surveyors to class in their register, and owing to the many failures which were occurring in the material, I was instructed to visit the Continent to investigate the cause. I ascertained that the steel being used was made in Germany by the basic process, and, on testing a large quantity of it, found it very unreliable and unsuitable for the purpose. The manufacturers, after testing a number of vessels' frames which they had turned out at their own works, admitted its unreliability, and gave me a written guarantee that no steel in future made by the basic process should be supplied for these vessels, as they were unable with this material to fulfill the conditions laid down by Lloyd's Register Committee. Very recently striking evidence has been adduced in this country that those who undertook to supply steel for vessels to class in Lloyd's Register have been unable to fulfill the conditions imposed with steel made by the basic process, and have had to relinquish the attempt. Under these circumstances the committee of Lloyd's Register have felt compelled to decline for the present to accept steel made by the basic process for vessels intended for classification in their register book. Such great advances, however, have been made in recent years in perfecting the quality of mild steel, and such thoroughly reliable and uniform material is now being made by the Siemens-Martin process, that it can only be hoped similar success will ultimately attend that produced by the basic process for shipbuilding purposes, and that the surviving inventor of the system by which it is made will live to reap the full reward of the labor and intelligence which have already been brought to bear upon its production.

Messrs. Levi E. Felty and William Floyd, of Homestead, Pa., have been granted a patent, dated June 1, for a heating furnace for gaseous fuel, which, we are informed, will be in operation in a few months.

Mr. John Gjers, of Middlesboro', England, recognizing the drawbacks of his ordinary soaking-pits when the ingots are cast at some distance from the rolling mill, has patented a modified design providing for auxiliary heating arrangements. The soaking-pits are in the form of vertical fire-clay retorts set in a combination chamber. This patent is dated May 18, 1886. A second patent of the same date provides for heating the soaking-pits internally while they are empty.

Civil Engineering in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

We are indebted to Mr. George F. Swain, associate professor of civil engineering, for a circular giving an account of the course in civil engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as arranged and essentially modified a short time ago. A modification which is deserving of the highest commendation is the introduction of optional studies into the regular course. By this alteration the range of studies has been materially enlarged, and the student has a correspondingly greater latitude of choice. The advantages of giving the student a certain amount of liberty of individual preference in the selection of studies is far from being universally recognized, but the practice is one which is destined to a much more general observance, and the Massachusetts

Institute of Technology is to be congratulated on having taken an advanced position in the matter.

The full course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology occupies a period of four years. During the first year the studies are the same in all departments of the school, while at the beginning of the second year the course in civil engineering proper begins. The first year instruction is given in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, chemistry and drawing, besides French, rhetoric, &c. The second year the student takes up analytical geometry, spherical trigonometry, differential calculus, surveying and physics, in addition to other less scientific studies. In the third year railroad surveying, theoretical and field work receive a considerable share of attention, while in pure mathematics the course includes integral calculus and mechanics. In the fourth year the student has a choice between the general course, the railroad course, and the course in geodesy and astronomy. The general course includes strength of materials, sanitary engineering, hydraulics, bridges and roofs, metallurgy in iron, &c., with options in related studies. The railroad course is in part the same as the general course, with the addition of applied mathematics in railroad engineering. The course in geodesy and astronomy covers a good deal of ground common to the other two courses, besides embracing the special studies indicated in the name of the course and options in higher mathematics. The instruction is given by lectures and recitations, together with practice in the field whenever the subject admits, and by exercises in the drawing-room. Before completing his course the student is required to select some subject and to present an acceptable thesis upon it, embodying the results of original investigation or design, accompanied in the latter case by the necessary computations, drawings and estimates.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 29, 1886.

The promised tariff bill from Mr. Randall has been introduced and referred. It now remains to be seen what will be done with it. Mr. Randall said of the bill to the correspondent of *The Iron Age*: "Its inception was from the standpoint of protection of American labor. All legislation for regulation and revenue has been for the protection of American manufacturers. We find the wages of labor constantly tending downward. Mechanical appliances have increased the productive capacity of all our industries, agricultural as well as manufacturing. It therefore becomes necessary to increase the demand for labor by increasing the field of manufactures. This bill, therefore, is designed to protect labor by promoting the manufacture at home of certain articles now largely imported. The bill raises duties in many instances, equalizes in others and in a few reduces. It reduces internal revenue tax, which was created as a war necessity and never was permanently an integral part of our revenue system. It also modifies the laws in regard to the collection of duties. One of the greatest sources of competition is the inability to effectively punish fraud on the revenue. The frauds of undervaluation have simply become enormous, and in the case of cutlery, as an instance, has almost ruined certain branches of manufactures. Enforced idleness of mills, through no demand on account of ruinous foreign competition, falls heaviest upon labor. Something must be done to give American labor and capital a monopoly of American markets in everything we can produce."

THE EFFECT OF THE BILL.

It is claimed for the bill that, while it will make a reduction of \$9,000,000 in revenue, the reduction will be in a loss of duty on articles which the bill proposes shall be manufactured at home. In the item of tin plate it is shown that no less than \$20,000,000 is paid out of the country for that article alone. We are said to be larger consumers of tin plate than almost the rest of the world together. Twenty millions of market for tin plate, it is claimed, would in itself give labor a large field of employment, as the protective duty proposed would establish prices which would stimulate investment in that branch of industry. In the item of iron or steel beams, girders or joists it has been found that Belgian beams are not only running English beams out of their own markets, but are threatening to seriously interfere with our own. The duty proposed is 1 cent per pound. The duty of \$13 per ton on iron and steel railway bars and \$16 per ton on iron and steel f-rails and flat rails punched is fixed on the ground of equalization. Boiler iron is placed at 1½ cents per pound; sheet iron, 1 cent per pound; horse-shoe nails and wire nails, 3 cents per pound; round iron, 1 cent per pound; lead in pigs and bars and scrap lead, 1½ cents per pound; lead in sheets, 2½ cents per pound.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE BILL.

The Committee on Ways and Means will determine the fate of the Randall bill. Whether they will be willing to give the bill a chance for discussion and action will be known later. The lateness of the session may be a plea on the part of Morrison and his friends for non-action in the committee, but with the President determined to scrutinize the appropriation bills by items it is more than likely that the day of adjournment will reach a later date than at first counted upon. The incorporation of the principal features of the Hewitt administrative reform bill recommends it in a measure to that gentleman on the committee, although there are some items in the metal schedule which he does not like. The greatest trouble is likely to arise through the opposition of the Republican members of the committee. The wool portion of the bill is not wholly objectionable to Major McKinley, of the committee, as it is better than existing rates. The chief ground of opposition on the part of the Republicans will be opposition to agitation, but this will not satisfy many Western Republicans, who have always been shaky, but have been held in the traces through party discipline. It is pro-

posed, however, to take the bill up in the Committee on Ways and Means and sound the members. A very few minutes will decide whether it will ever see daylight again. At the meeting of the Democratic "Steering" Committee yesterday Speaker Carlisle, Mr. Randall and Mr. Morrison, composing that combination of parliamentary omnipotence for the rest of the session, there was shown an inclination to allow the bill to rest until next session.

WHAT THE REPUBLICANS THINK OF IT.

The Republican leaders are disposed to criticize the bill, and do not give it credit for even the redeeming feature of reduction of internal revenue taxes which they have always been advocating as a movement to cover the flanks of the tariff. It would be a curious turn in affairs to see the Republicans divide on a Democratic tariff bill, as the Democrats have been doing. Within the past two weeks we have seen 35 Democrats voting with the Republicans against free trade, and four Republicans voting and one paired with the Democrats against protection. There are other Republicans who were not willing to go so far as the Morrison bill, but they say that they can support a measure on the general principles embodied in the Randall bill. There is no question that the move of Mr. Randall is one of the most important in our tariff history since the days of nullification and the Clay compromise. It may materially modify the relation of both parties to that great economic question.

STRUCTURAL TEST COMMISSION.

All prospects of passing the bill for the appointment of a commission to take charge of certain experiments and formulation of results in testing structural materials have vanished for the present session, and doubtless for the Congress. The "Steering" Committee of the House have determined to adhere very closely to the appropriation bills. The structural test bill is now on the calendar as the unfinished business of the Committee on Manufactures. If another call of the committee could be had, with a little vigorous management the bill could be passed. It has an undoubted majority, and it is believed by its friends that it has two-thirds. If a careful canvas should make that fact positive, and the assent of the Speaker to a recognition could be obtained, the bill might even then be carried under a suspension of the rules. It is to be regretted that a measure so vitally important to the mechanical industries and building trades should be permitted to languish.

RECENT CUSTOMS DECISIONS.

The Acting Secretary decides that imported steel in sheets is in nowise covered by Paragraph 151, Schedule C, unless it is galvanized or coated with zinc or spelter or other metals, or an alloy of those metals.

CLASSIFICATION OF IRON BOILERS FOR DUTY.

The Acting Secretary of the Treasury has decided that certain imported boilers are dutiable at 1½ cents a pound, as articles not specially enumerated, made from boiler or other plate iron, whether wholly or partially manufactured, instead of 45 per cent. ad valorem, on the ground that the boilers in question are not made from ordinary boiler and tank plate iron, but from wrought iron varying from 1 inch to 1½ inches in thickness; that it is different from boiler and tank plate iron only in thickness and that, notwithstanding its thickness, it is comprehended in the term "plate iron," and that, inasmuch as these boilers are made of plate iron, which in each instance is the material of chief value, they are dutiable as claimed by the appellants.

DUTYABLE CHARACTER OF BASE BULLION ORES.

The Acting Secretary of the Treasury has issued the following directions in regard to the assessment of duty on certain ores: First, base bullion in which lead predominates in weight should be classified under the provision for "lead in pigs;" and, second, that ores composed of silver and lead and iron, or silver and lead, or silver and other base metals of which silver is the component material of chief value, would be exempt from duty under the provision in the free list for "ores of * * * silver." The Acting Secretary has also decided that sheep shears are dutiable at 45 per cent. as manufactures of steel, and not at 35 per cent. as cutlery. The Treasury Department has reversed an assessment of 45 per cent. duty on certain so-called surgical scissors as a manufacture of steel, and has rated them at 35 per cent. as cutlery not specially enumerated, declaring "that scissors with bent blades, adapted for clipping horses, button-hole scissors, &c., table knives and forks, and table steels, come within the purview of and are liable to the duty prescribed for 'cutlery.'"

ALLOWANCE FOR INCREASED WEIGHT OF IRON ORE.

A number of appeals upon an assessment of duty at the rate of 75 cents per ton on the weight of certain imported iron ore having been received, the Treasury Department has instructed customs officers that "duties must be assessed on the actual quantity of merchandise imported, as shown by the returns of the weigher, gauger or measurer, as the case may be," except that an allowance may be made for damage by sea-water on the voyage of importation, or on account of excessive weight caused by "accident or unusual leakage," or absorption of moisture or sea-water on the voyage of importation, but that before such allowance can be made the importer must file due application therefor with the collector of customs within 10 days after the landing of the goods, and have the percentage of damage or increased weight, as the case may be, duly ascertained and reported by the appraiser. The Secretary adds: "Nothing would seem to prevent the appraiser, when estimating the percentage of increase of weight, from considering the report of the analytical chemists employed by the shippers and the importers of the ore as a basis for the purpose of definitely determining the quantity of dry ore imported, it being understood, however, that the appraiser shall use his own judgment in such matters, and shall only accept the reports of such chemists when satisfied that they are substantially correct."

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Trade Report.

New York.

American Pig.—During the past 14 days agents of Southern furnaces have sold for delivery during the next few months about 25,000 tons of Foundry Irons, in some cases at concessions from prices formerly asked. The majority of the Southern furnaces which have been sellers are now well booked, and will only take orders to accommodate regular customers, especially as there will be some falling off in the make in the next months, owing to blowing out of furnaces for remodeling. In standard brand little business is reported, though the deliveries on old contracts are heavier since the resumption of work in foundries closed down by labor troubles. It should be noted that a number of furnaces have changed to Bessemer, among them the Reading and the Warwick. The situation is such that it depends upon the developments of the next 30 days whether an upward tendency will be developed. We quote for standard brands, tidewater delivery, \$18 @ \$18.50 for No. 1 X Foundry, \$17 @ \$17.50 for No. 2 X Foundry, and \$16 @ \$16.50 for Gray Forge, with the market in buyers' favor. Outside brands are 50¢ below these quotations.

Scotch Pig.—The market continues dull, with small current sales. We quote nominally as follows for small lots: Coltness, \$19.75 @ \$20 to arrive; Gartsherrie, \$19 @ \$19.25 to arrive; Shotts and Langloan, \$19.50 @ \$20 to arrive; Carnbroe and Glegaraock, \$18.50 @ \$19 to arrive; Summerlee, \$19.50 @ \$19.75 to arrive; Dalmellington, \$18.50 @ \$18.75 to arrive; Eglinton, \$17.50 @ \$18 to arrive, and Clyde, \$18 @ \$18.50 to arrive.

Bessemer Pig.—We hear of the sale of a small lot of Foreign, special quality, and are reported the purchase by an importing firm of a lot of 6000 to 7000 tons in the Pittsburgh market. We quote Foreign nominally \$18.75 @ \$19, and Domestic \$18 @ \$18.50 at furnace.

Spiegel-isen.—We are reported the sale of a round lot at private terms. We quote nominally English \$25.25, and German \$25.

Bar Iron.—The market is quiet, but with less tendency to concessions. To-morrow a strike will be initiated at the Philadelphia mills for the adoption of the 2¢ card rate as the minimum in the basis for the scale. We continue to quote for delivery here in round lots: Common Iron, 1.65¢ @ 1.70¢; Medium, 1.70¢ @ 1.75¢; and Refined Iron, 1.75¢ @ 1.9¢. Store prices are 1.75¢ @ 1.80¢ for Common, 1.85¢ @ 1.90¢ for Medium, and 1.9¢ @ 2.2¢ for Refined.

Structural Iron and Steel.—There is considerable work in sight—more so, in fact, than for a long time—and in this city alone not less than 3000 to 4000 tons of material will be given out in the near future. There is less anxiety to sell, and buyers do not find it quite so easy a matter to shade quotations as in the past. We quote for Angles 2¢ @ 2.10¢, delivered, and Tees at 2.40¢ @ 2.45¢, for round lots. Steel Angles are quoted 2.35¢ @ 2.45¢, according to quality. Store quotations remain 2.25¢ @ 2.4¢ for Angles, and 2.6¢ @ 2.7¢ for Tees. American Beams and Channels are nominally 3¢ base from dock for all orders.

Plates.—During the next few days contracts will be awarded for the Steel Plates for two ferry-boats. We quote for round lots: Common or Tank, 2.12¢ @ 2.20¢; Refined, 2.4¢ @ 2.5¢; Shell, 2.4¢ @ 2.5¢; Flange, 3.4¢ @ 3.5¢; Extra Flange, 4¢ @ 4.5¢. For small lots of Steel Plates the quotations are as follows: Tank, 2.70¢ @ 2.75¢; Ship, 3¢; Shell, 3.5¢; Flange, 3.5¢, and Fire-Box, 4¢ @ 4.5¢, on dock.

Merchant Steel.—For Open-Hearth and Bessemer Steels concessions continue to be the order of the day. We quote nominally for the range from ordinary to good grades as follows: American Tool Steels, 7 1/2¢ @ 9¢; Tool Steel of special grades and finer qualities, 12¢ @ 20¢; English Tool, 13¢ @ 15 1/2¢; common grades, 7¢ @ 9¢; Crucible Machinery, 4.5¢ @ 6¢; Round and Flat Spring, 2.4¢ @ 2.6¢; Round-Edge Tire, 2.4¢ @ 2.6¢; Square-Edge Tire, 2.75¢ @ 2.9¢; Toe Calk, 2.7¢; Sleigh Shoe, 2.6¢ @ 2.8¢; Open-Hearth Machinery, 2.5¢ @ 2.8¢, and Bessemer Machinery, 2.25¢ @ 2.5¢, with freight allowance.

Wire Rods.—Sales have been on a little more liberal scale during the week, quotations remaining \$38 @ \$39 for Ordinary Rods. The Plain Wire trade is in a poor condition, very low prices having been made recently in the West. A German contemporary says of the Rod market: "The American works have increased their make in an enormous manner, having carried it from 50,000 tons in 1884 to 160,000 tons in 1885, and it is likely that the current year has brought about a further increase. It may be assumed, therefore, that the sale of Wire Rods to the United States will cease within measurable time. It is characteristic for the present condition of the Wire-Rod market that one of the largest buyers of Wire Rods exports the raw material, Wire Billets, from the Iron districts. One large English export concern has resold a large lot of Westphalian Wire Rods to a German Wire mill at 6 marks below the cost price, either to force down the price of Wire or because they had

no market in America. The German Wire-Rod pool has in the meanwhile succeeded fairly well in maintaining prices, and it will be undoubtedly extended beyond the preliminary date of the agreement, the 1st of July. It has been proposed by some to increase the contribution to the general fund from which premiums are paid on output below allotment, partly in order to obtain a larger fund, which is always the best preserver of such pools."

Steel Rails.—No sales of any magnitude are reported by the Eastern mills. It is asserted that a contract for 14,000 tons to a road in the Northwest has been taken by one of the Chicago mills, and that the Western Steel Co. have secured an order for 15,000 tons at a price between \$37.50 and \$37.75 at St. Louis. We continue to quote \$34 @ \$35 at Eastern mill, according to size of order and time of delivery. We hear of a sale of 3000 tons of Foreign Steel-Rail Blooms to be rolled into Rails by an American works, Springfield being named. There are rumors of sales aggregating 20,000 tons of Foreign Rail Blooms at \$24.50 at tide-water.

Old Rails.—There have been sales of round lots for Western delivery which pretty well fill up the Pittsburgh and Mahoning Valley. Foreign Double Heads and Bridges are being offered without takers. We quote the market \$18.50 @ \$19 for American T's.

Scrap.—The market is quiet. A lot of 600 tons of Foreign Scrap has gone into store. We quote \$18 @ \$18.50 from yard.

Rail Fastenings.—We quote nominally 2.40¢, delivered, for Spikes, and 1.80¢ @ 2¢ for Angle Fish Bars.

Messrs. Hugh W. Adams & Co., of 56 Pine street, this city, have been appointed agents of the Bangor Furnace Co., Bangor, Mich., Bradley, Graves & Co., Limited, Lossees, manufacturers of Charcoal Pig Iron.

Philadelphia.

Office of The Iron Age, 220 South Fourth St., PHILADELPHIA, June 22, 1886.

The first half of the year, which opened with so much promise, has failed to meet the expectations that were so generally indulged in. This is due in a large measure to matters entirely unforeseen, such, for instance, as the socialistic outbreak in the West and the more or less unsettled feeling in regard to labor in other sections. Incalculable injury was done, but there was a feeling a few weeks ago that the storm was spent, and that the last half of the year would be more settled and more satisfactory in every respect. The new outbreak, however, admonishes us that the trouble is not settled yet, and while there is no serious uneasiness in regard to the matter, it is of sufficient importance to attract attention and cause some hesitation in making forecasts as to the future. Apart from contingencies of this character, however, prospects are decidedly encouraging. There has been a great deal of work given out among large consumers of Iron, and a great deal more that probably will be given out within the next 60 days, and although prices are entirely too low the expectation is that there will be steady improvement as the season advances. Consumption has been very large this year so far, and is likely to continue so after the next two or three weeks, during which time there will be more or less suspension of work, but, once started, increasing activity is believed to be pretty well assured.

Pig Iron.—Without very wide fluctuations in prices the market during the past six months was one of greater interest than usual. The large and steadily increasing production was taken during the first four months of the year at gradually advancing prices, until at one time it looked almost like a repetition of the boom in 1879 and 1880. But the outbreak in the West, and the general demand for an advance in wages, seemed to destroy confidence, and for the past two months the best that can be said of the market is that it has held its own better than could have been expected. Good brands of Iron have not accumulated to any great extent, in some cases not at all, but, all the same, there is no denying the fact that most, if not all, the gain made in four months has been lost during the past two, so that practically prices are just about as they were early in January. There are exceptions, of course, but taking the market as a whole buyers can do quite as well as they could six months ago. As to the future it is difficult to say what the outcome will be, but the general feeling is hopeful and confident, and if nothing unforeseen occurs a steadily improving market is looked for, commencing probably in August, perhaps sooner. The supply of Pig Iron of one kind or another is large, the kind that consumers want is not large, and the heavy look that the market has is because there are so many trying to sell stuff that people do not want at any price. Good brands are believed to be at bottom figures, and on such improvement in values is only a question of time. Prices range about as follows: No. 1 Foundry at tide, \$18.25 @ \$19; Special brands, \$19.50 @ \$20; No. 2, do., \$17 @ \$17.50, and Gray Forge, \$16 @ \$16.50; Southern brands, ex-ship, \$17 @ \$18 for No. 1 Foundry; \$16 @ \$16.50 for No. 2, and \$15 @ \$15.50 for Gray Forge.

Steel Irons.—There has been a new trade springing up within the past year to

meet the demand from makers of Open-Hearth Steel. The Castle Furnace, at Cataanqua, Pa., is finding ready sale for all it can make, as also the Soho, in Pittsburgh. These furnaces produce a grade of Iron specially adapted for the finer grades of Steel, and said to be lower in phosphorus and sulphur than any of the imported Irons. The foreign trade has been considerable, nevertheless, such brands as Ulverstone and Ridsdale having been sold very largely. In such grades as are used by the Bessemer companies the Cornwall furnaces have taken a large share of the business, while others, such as the Mohican, are gradually coming into prominence, and exercise no little influence in keeping prices within moderate limits. Quotations are difficult to get with exactness, but \$18 at furnace is named for Cornwall and \$21 for Castle, and about \$19 @ \$19.50 at tide for Foreign.

Manufactured Iron.—The demand during the six months has been larger than for a long time past, and on the whole prices have been well maintained. Fluctuations have been within narrow limits, and at irregular periods, according to the demand, sometimes 0.05¢ @ 0.10¢ dearer, and then, when business got dull, back again to the old figures. Compared with this date six months ago it is difficult to detect any change whatever, quotations being the same, although it is probable that holders are a little firmer. Cost of production has increased considerably, however, so that in that sense manufacturers are not as well off as they were at the time mentioned. Business has suffered a good deal from the strikes, and during the past two months the demand has been nearly all for small lots. Large orders were taken early in the season for shipbuilding, bridge-building, &c., as well as from the large machine shops, but these are now pretty well completed, and it is a little doubtful if they will be renewed on the same scale as before. The demand from other sources is better, however, so that on the whole prospects are considered fairly encouraging, both as regards the volume of business and prices likely to be realized, although much will depend on the outcome of events during the next 30 days. At a meeting of the rolling-mill owners held here to-day it was decided to reject the demands of the men for a change of schedule. The mills will close this week and not resume work unless the men come in at the old prices, which they declare they will not do. This, of course, means a strike in the Kensington district and the throwing out of employment of nearly 2000 men.

Steel Rails.—There has been remarkable uniformity in this department, and all that can be said is that there has been plenty of business at steady prices during the entire six months. Prices are just where they were in January, say \$34.50 @ \$35, with every mill in the country at work, and a large amount of business still in sight—more, in fact, than can be handled as promptly as desired. The outlook is in every respect satisfactory, and, while manufacturers do not think it wise to invite foreign competition by putting prices any higher, there is little doubt that \$34 will be a bottom figure for 1886.

Old Material.—Fluctuations have been wider in this than in any other article on the list. During the first quarter Old Rails and No. 1 Scrap sold as high as \$24, Philadelphia, but gradually declined to about \$18.50, but appear now to be on the up-track again at \$19 @ \$19.50. The advance to the high figure named was entirely speculative, but on the present basis of values they are considered safe property to hold.

Pittsburgh.

Office of The Iron Age, 77 Fourth Avenue, PITTSBURGH, PA., June 22, 1886.

While general business cannot be termed active, there is a decidedly better and more cheerful feeling, which goes a good way in bringing about an improvement. The fact that the wage-scale as regards the iron-workers and nailers has been settled for a year to come has had a good deal to do with creating a much better feeling in business circles. The reports from the South and West, the latter in particular, are generally of an encouraging character, and our manufacturers, almost without exception, are expecting a good fall trade. The indications are that general business, not only here, but throughout the country, will be much better from July to January than it was from January to July. Natural gas and oil development is still being pushed forward with a good deal of vigor, the former in particular; pipes for natural gas are being put down in nearly all the principal streets, and within another year or two gas as fuel will be as common as the city water. Other points, including Wheeling and Cleveland, will be furnished with natural gas before long. Youngstown, Ohio, expects to have it in August next.

Pig Iron.—There has been no important change in the general position of the market since our last report. Demand as a rule continues light, consumers buying Iron only as they need it, and it is likely that this policy will be generally adhered to until after the work of stock-taking and repairs is completed. There is still considerable Southern Iron being offered here, and while we hear of but little of it being sold it has its effect upon the market. Consumers continue to look upon these Southern Irons

with more or less suspicion, and all effort thus far to convince buyers that they are equal to home-made Irons has proved unavailing. Within the past few weeks prices have gone off fully 50¢ per ton, and the decline may to a considerable extent be attributed to these Southern Irons. We quote as follows:

No. 1 Gray Forge	16.00 @	\$16.25, 4 "
No. 2 Gray Forge	15.50 @	15.75, 4 "
All-ore Mill	17.00 @	17.50, 4 "
White and Mottled	14.50 @	15.25, 4 "
No. 1 Foundry	18.00 @	18.50, 4 "
No. 2 Foundry	17.00 @	17.50, 4 "
Charcoal Foundry	20.00 @	20.00, 4 "
Cold Blast Charcoal	24.00 @	27.00, 4 "
Bessemer Iron	18.50 @	19.00, 4 "

There has been considerable activity in Bessemer Iron the past week, sales aggregating some 10,000 to 12,000 tons being announced, and all for a basis of \$18, cash. We are cognizant of a sale of 6500 tons at \$18, cash. This was bought for Naylor & Co., of New York, on speculation, and will be held here for a better market.

Muck Bar.—There is some inquiry, and the market may be quoted steady at \$27 @ \$27.50, cash, according to quality.

Manufactured Iron.—Business continues to keep up very well for this month, as the mills are nearly all in operation, some of them working double turn; orders as a rule are small, but amount to considerable in the aggregate. The outlook is very generally regarded as being favorable for a good fall business. Stocks, both in the hands of jobbers and consumers, are known to be comparatively light, and, with good crops and labor complications about disposed of, there is reason to look for a good trade in all kinds of Finished Iron the coming fall, and manufacturers are hopeful that prices will steady up. We continue to quote first-quality Iron on a basis of 1.65¢ @ 1.70¢ for Merchant Bars; Old Rail Iron, from 1 1/2¢ to 1 3/4¢ less; a good many buyers are willing to pay the difference for the former.

Nails.—The conference committee, after several protracted sessions, arrived at an understanding, and the Nail strike—the longest on record—was brought to a close. The wage-scale accepted by the nailers is the same that was offered them June 1, 1885, so that the manufacturers have carried their point, although, as a matter of course, they lost a good deal of their trade. Pittsburgh for over a year has been obliged to draw her supplies from competing points, and jobbers who were formerly supplied by Pittsburgh manufacturers have been obliged to look elsewhere. Some of this trade will be recovered, but a good deal of it has been lost. The strike was a godsend to Eastern Nail manufacturers, as they were thereby enabled to enter Western markets from which they were before shut out. The work of repairing the Nail factories has already been commenced, and it is probable some of them will be started up within a few weeks, as there is no stock and it will be necessary to work up an assortment. The outlook is regarded as being favorable for at least an average fall trade. The following named Pittsburgh firms have Nail factories, and it is probable that they will be started up as soon as they can be placed in condition: Chess, Cook & Co., Zug & Co., Shoenberger & Co., Jones & Laughlins and Moorhead Bros.

Wrought-Iron Pipe.—There is nothing of an important character to report; no abatement in the demand and not likely to be until the advent of winter. Mills are all as busy as they can be, and it is difficult to place an order of any magnitude for immediate delivery, as the mills are all sold ahead. Prices unchanged, with the exception of 3/4-inch Casing, which has been advanced to 45¢ per foot, net. Black Butt-Welded Pipe in carlots, 45¢ discount; Galvanized do., 35¢; Black Lap-Welded Pipe, 60¢; Galvanized do., 42¢ 1/2¢; less than a carload, discounts 2 1/2¢ less than rates above quoted. Boiler Tubes, 52 1/2¢ off; 2-inch Oil-Well Tubing, 14¢ per foot, net; 8-inch Drive Pipe, \$1.30.

Steel.—The Merchant Steel trade is a little quiet at present, as is usually the case in June; it is expected that there will be an improvement next month. Prices unchanged. Refined Cast Tool Steel, 8¢ @ 9¢; Crucible Machinery, 3 1/4¢ @ 4¢; Open-Hearth do., 2 1/2¢ @ 2 3/4¢; Steel Boiler Plate, 4¢ @ 4 1/2¢; Bessemer Blooms and Billets, \$31 @ \$33 per ton; Steel Bloom Ends, nominal at \$20.50 @ \$21; Steel Rail Ends, \$21 @ \$21.50.

Old Rails.—We are reported a small sale of Old Iron Rails at \$21 here, and we hear of a sale at \$21.25, delivered at Youngstown. Large consumers here are pretty well supplied, and there is not much inquiry in consequence. Old Steel Rails quoted at \$20 @ \$20.50 for short and \$22 @ \$22.50 for long lengths. We are advised of sales of short lengths at \$20.

Railway Track Supplies.—There is a fair business; no change in prices. Splice Bars, 2.40¢, 30 days, delivered; Splice Bars, 1.65¢ @ 1.75¢; Track Bolts, 2.75¢ with Square and 2.85¢ @ 3¢ with Hexagon Nuts.

Steel Rails.—There is a fair inquiry; no change in prices. Heavy sections, for fall delivery, \$36 @ \$37.50, cash, at mill. Very few, if any, of the mills in the country are in condition to take any orders for July and August.

Old Material.—There is rather more doing, and prices are firmer, but unchanged. Sales of Old Axles at \$23 @ \$24, net ton: No. 1 Wrought Scrap, \$18; Axle Turnings, \$14 @ \$15; Cast Boring, \$11 @ \$12, gross

ton; No. 1 Cast Scrap, \$14 @ \$15, gross; Old Car Wheels nominal at \$16, gross.

Window Glass.—There has been no change in the position of the Window-Glass trade, but there is every indication of an improved trade this fall. Prices unchanged. Discount on Single Strength, 75 ¢; on Double Strength, 75 and 10 ¢.

Coke.—Blast-furnace Coke remains unchanged at \$1.50 per ton, free on cars at ovens.

Chicago.

Office of The Iron Age, 36 and 38 Clark St., Cor. Lake St., CHICAGO, June 28, 1886.

The laboring classes of this city seem to have a mania for strikes. Scarcely a week has passed since May 1 that there has not been some fresh outbreak. Since the ending of the general strike none were of a character that affected business outside of the lines in which it occurred until last week, when the switchmen on the Lake Shore Railroad went out on their second strike in two months. So far as shipping goes, tradesmen can get along without using this line, but the effect is more far-reaching. The men engaged in it appear determined not to give in until the company grant their demand. It is said the switchmen's union is backing the strikers, and, if so, all other roads entering the city may become involved. Thus far the strikers have confined themselves to persuading outsiders from taking their places, disabling engines, derailing cars and blocking the track to prevent freight from being moved, and have had things pretty much their own way. The strikers of the Calumet Co., at Cummings, are in sympathy with them and join hands in the obstruction to traffic. Considerable freight was delayed on the tracks, both east and west. Business men deplore this renewed disturbance, which, if extended to lines west, will counteract the improvement of the past month and shake the confidence that had just begun to manifest itself. In manufacturing circles there is still a degree of uncertainty regarding the position of the Iron manufacturers versus puddlers, rollers and nailers, which does not tend to improve prices and regulate trade.

Hardware.—The only noticeable change is a decrease in the number of orders and the gradual falling off in general demand. Jobbers, however, have been kept fairly busy in supplying odds and ends to fill up the country merchants' stock. There has been some little inquiry for fall goods, but no buying of importance. Manufacturers are at present quite firm in their demands for fall delivery on such articles and lines as can be controlled. The volume of trade during the month of June has been exceedingly satisfactory, and makes the average of the first six months of the year much greater than was anticipated during May. With the exception of the withdrawal of price lists by manufacturers on special lines there is not likely to be any change in prices until fall trade opens. The ambition of jobbers located west of Chicago to capture trade heretofore sold by Chicago houses is resulting disastrously to profits on some lines of goods sold in that territory. The action of jobbers in the past six months located at different points in the West does not seem to concert with the harmony displayed in the adoption of the resolutions so liberally signed about January 1, in which they at least ostensibly agreed to observe uniformity in price and unanimity on advance and decline. A secret attempt to control or obtain trade regardless of competitors is frequently ill-advised and always demoralizing when it reaches those whom it was intended to injure.

Barb Wire.—There is no change to report in the conditions of the Barb-Wire market. Trade cannot get much less than it is at present, and there is no reason why it should revive until after harvesting is over. On sales jobbers continue the quotation of 3 1/2¢ for Painted Wire and 4 1/4¢ for Galvanized. These figures are given only as nominal, because there are manufacturers who would be willing to accept orders at a shade under price, according to quantity, more with a view of realizing the cash than of obtaining profits. We are informed that another secret meeting was held by the pool members during the past week, at which nothing of any great importance transpired, so far as can be learned.

Nails.—The Nail market at the moment is in a very unsettled condition. Reports that a scale of prices had been agreed upon between manufacturers and nailers, under date of the 25th inst., had a tendency to weaken the market on the supposition that the mills would resume with stronger forces and therefore increased product. Counter-statements under date of the 26th, that the nailers were not satisfied with the scale and that business was likely to continue in the present shape, reversed the feeling among the trade and perhaps inclined jobbers to place orders. From such inquiries as they have made from manufacturers it would appear that prices are more firm than 10 days ago, and it is possible that no Iron Nails could be had at less than \$2, delivered. In small lots from store jobbers are quoting \$2.10 for Iron Nails and \$2.20 for Steel Nails as their regular price. Those who have the stock shade these prices 5¢ in carload lots. Some of the jobbers of Hardware refuse to sell Nails where the order does not include other

goods. It is said the demand from country buyers holds on very well for the season, and, if anything, has increased for delivery 30 and 60 days hence. Neither manufacturers nor jobbers are of one opinion regarding future prices. Stocks are small in all sections of the country at the present time, so far as can be learned, but if the 17¢ scale is accepted it will likely increase the product, and to a degree retard buying. Should the manufacturing of Nails be continued under the same conditions as during the past year the supply can be pretty well gauged, and the chances are that Nails will command a better price. It is claimed that the only thing to controvert this point will be the determined effort of manufacturers of Steel Nails to drive Iron Nails from the market. It has now become general in the minds of the trade that this is at least one cause for the low figures at which Nails are selling. Manufacturers quote prices to jobbers for immediate delivery only.

American Pig Iron.—The market is, if anything, a trifle better than a week ago. With the hardening of prices buyers become more active, and each time they have approached sellers recently they have found less chance to gain concessions. In fact, sales of small lots have been made at 50¢ per ton above the price that was asked at the beginning of the month. This is exceptional, however, and does not hold good on all brands of Charcoal, Coke or Softeners, but serves to express the feeling among makers of standard Irons. Off brands, for which there is less demand, can be had as cheap now as at any time in the last two months, but sellers will not shade the price and are asking from 25¢ to 50¢ more from the general run of buyers. In carlots sales have not been in proportion to the number of inquiries, and yet there has been a fair amount of Iron sold, considering that most of what is taken during this and next month is for finishing the year's product. Implement makers do a great deal of looking around about this season of the year preparatory to buying for their next year's stock, which gives sales agents plenty of figuring and watching. Negotiations are also in progress for additional blocks of Charcoal Bessemer, which will be required before the close of the year. Throughout there is evidence that more Iron is wanted and that buyers are accepting the present situation as favorable to the placing of their orders. Furnacemen, having gained through their efforts to obtain higher prices, are meeting with less opposition from the trade than was expected. All buyers are generous enough to concede the fact that there is no large profit in present prices, and are ready to accord the advance in the hope that it will stimulate trade and general business. Sales of Lake Superior Charcoal Irons have been made in the past week in carload lots on a basis of \$20.50, and shaded in larger quantities at \$20, for months. Options taken a week ago by Car-Wheel men are still out, and some contracts which are pending for large lots may be closed in the course of a few days. Coke Irons are also in good request, but in smaller quantities, quotations ranging from \$19 to \$19.50 in carload lots, four months. Ohio Standard Blackbands are taken with so much regularity that there is less reason to expect fluctuations in price than on either of the other Irons. The best brands are quoted from \$19.50 to \$20.50, carload lots, four months, and in such quantities it is not likely that these prices can be shaded. There is, however, a possibility that contracts for a six months' supply will be made at a fraction below these figures, as there is an inclination on the part of some manufacturers to give this Iron a trial in a new mixture, and as furnacemen have been seeking for this trade it is believed they will concede a point in order to have them take hold. This action, however, would not change their market price to any other class of consumers. Cinder Mixed Irons are quoted at \$18 for the general run, while on several brands 50¢ additional is asked. It is remarked that Southern Irons are a shade firmer, and we hear of higher prices having been asked by sales agents, but learn of no sales that have been made at figures which would warrant our making more than a nominal quotation of \$17.50 @ \$18 for No. 1 Foundry; \$17 for No. 2; \$16.50 for No. 2½, and \$1 less for No. 3. In the latter class of Iron, buyers do not show any anxiety to place orders, though it is understood that some few sales have been made of small lots recently.

Merchant Steel.—The market for Merchant Steel remains quiet on the general line, though a little more trade is noted in Tool Steel for future delivery. More inquiries are received by manufacturers, apparently for testing the strength of prices. Some improvement is looked for during the coming month, and possibly prices, which are now weak and irregular, will be shaded to those who are willing to contract for the year's supply. This at least is expected by a portion of the trade, and they are preparing to make the best figures in order to get the contracts. Sales agents report that combination prices are being cut in various parts of the country, which demoralizes merchants in placing orders for all classes of Steel. Former quotations are unchanged.

Steel Rails.—There has been a fair demand for small lots of Steel Rails for immediate delivery, but manufacturers here are unable to accept orders for anything except late fall delivery. It is also said that inquiries have been made, and in one or two

instances contracts were placed, for Rails to be delivered next spring. No lots of importance have been in demand for late fall delivery, so far as we can learn. Mills continue the quotation of \$38 for first quality and \$34.50 for seconds.

Bar Iron.—There has been only a fair trade for the Best Refined New Puddled Iron during the week. The signing of the scale by manufacturers has allayed the fear that there would be an advance in price on this grade of Iron. Quotations at mill are made at 1.75¢ rates and from store at 1.85¢ rates. The demand for common Iron is very slow and prices irregular. Manufacturers quote 1.55¢ rates base from mill in carload lots to general consumers, and jobbers quote 1.75¢ rates from store in small lots. We hear of several sales of Iron, carbuilders' specifications, which were made at figures said to be considerably less than the lowest quotation. Merchants report that mills are unwilling to accept contracts for delivery after July 1, and that their prices are stronger than they were two weeks ago. There seems, however, to be such a vast difference in the statements regarding mills and their position on price that in the present demoralized condition of the market one can hardly arrive at any conclusion other than that the market is weak and irregular.

Structural Iron.—A little more than the usual demand for small lots of Beams has been received during the past week. These come largely from country places, to be used in work that had been laid aside during the strike, and recently taken up with the view of completion. There has also been some further inquiry for Bridge Material, upon which most of the makers claim that they are pretty well supplied with orders. No changes are reported in the price of Beams or other Structural Material.

Black Sheets.—Jobbers who are handling only the best grade of Black Sheets report a fair trade in small lots, with some improvement in the demand from heavy buyers. Prices on this grade of Iron have been fairly firm, and an average of about 20¢ advance on our quotations has been obtained for this grade of Iron. On the common grade of Black Sheets in light numbers trade has been fairly good from store, which jobbers quote as follows: No. 24, 2.80¢; Nos. 25 and 26, 2.90¢ and No. 27, 3¢.

Galvanized Iron.—There has been less business done in Galvanized Iron during the past week than the week previous. Cornicemen report that they are having considerable work, all in small jobs, at very low prices. Jobbers quote from store: Juniata 60 and 10 ½ off, and Charcoal 60, 10 and 5 ½ off. A circular to the trade recently announces the sale of the rolling mills of the Volta Iron Co., at Apollo, Pa., to the Apollo Iron & Steel Co. They promise the trade an increased production of high standard Soft Steel Sheets, and guarantee a uniformly superior quality.

Old Wheels.—On small lots of Old Wheels \$15 has been offered. Sellers are asking \$15.50, cash, and refuse to sell for less.

Scrap Iron.—There is no increased demand for Scrap Iron and prices are weak. No. 1 Wrought is nominally quoted at \$17.50, No. 1 Mill at \$14, and No. 2 at \$9.

Pig Lead.—The week past has witnessed an improvement and fair demand. Sales of some 650 tons have been made at 4.65¢ @ 4.67½¢. The concentration of stocks in New York and their scarcity in the West have advanced prices to the latter figures.

Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 28, 1886.
Rains continue, and the hopes of the Alabama farmers and those who are dependent upon their custom sink lower and lower. Two bright days in the past week counted for very little against the drowning-out the crops have undergone. While the sun shone, though, business was very fair in this city; elsewhere in this territory it seems to have been tame enough.

Pig Iron.—Iron of all kinds seems weak, Pig Iron more so than there has been any reason to expect. Recent sales are reported at quite as low figures as have been accepted any time this year. Imprudent cutting among Southern furnaces has undoubtedly helped to bring things to this pass, but apparently the demand does not quite hold up to what it was some three weeks ago. Certainly the promises of that time have not been realized. The extension of the Pig-Iron industry of the district continues to be one of its most cheerful features. Just now the reinsurance in this respect is abundant. Within a week in the State something substantial has been done toward the erection of as many as four new furnaces. The Pioneer Mfg. Co. (Mr. Samuel Thomas and associates, all of Pennsylvania) have broken ground for their first furnace, of 100 tons capacity, some 3 miles from this city, and for 150 Coke ovens and 50 brick tenement houses. The DeBardeleben Coal and Iron Co. have resumed work at a new site, some 2 miles nearer town than the old one—which is to say some 10 miles out. Their project contemplates two furnaces to make about 100 tons each. Contracts have been closed for a second furnace at Sheffield. These with the plants actually under way in or near Birmingham make nine new furnaces that Alabama will have very soon. There is promise of others, too. The latest thing in this line is a pending

trade of Eastern capitalists for a tract of Iron lands not far from here.

Finished Iron.—So far from getting the better prices they hoped for, the rolling mills here have had to meet fresh cuts in the last few days. In certain lines Northern competitors for Western trade are holding them down to uncomfortably close margins. The demand has fallen off a little, too, without apparent cause.

Miscellaneous.—It is a dull week now for the newspapers when there is not some new enterprise to announce in Birmingham. The last few days have brought assurance of several of these. The most considerable is another gin and machinery concern, and the next machine and repair shops, the capital to come from the East in the latter case. Of the enterprises already here one is busy now on two hoisting outfits for new mines, and another on the Cast-Iron work for an important new local street railroad. A third is making a small ice machine which works very successfully and promises in a measure to revolutionize the ice business.

Coal.—One of the hoisting outfits mentioned above is for the Pratt Coal and Iron Co. The leading domestic Coals are just coming into market again. Carload prices for summer delivery, f.o.b. at this point, average about as follows: Montevallo, \$3.25 per ton; Helena and Cahaba, \$2.50; Pratt, \$1.75. Steam Coals, which in this market come almost exclusively from the Warrior field, bring about \$1.25 at most of the mines, the more favored operators in the matter of transportation delivering here at that figure.

Chattanooga.

Office of The Iron Age, Carter and Ninth Sts., CHATTANOOGA, June 28, 1886.

There can be no question that many parts of the South are just at the present time undergoing something like a boom, especially in the Iron districts. In some localities all kinds of real estate have advanced to what would appear to outsiders extravagant figures. Owners of Ore and Coal properties that sell their holdings regret it when they see the same property resold at an advance of 25% to 100% in a few days. New manufacturers, too, are talked off in all directions, and many of the parties are known to have plenty of means to carry out anything they may take in hand. To what extent this condition of affairs will continue is, of course, problematical, but it is quite certain that much permanent good will result to the Southern Iron districts, and, of course, will extend and ramify its influence into every section of the South. Business is extremely good for the season of the year, and there is a marked increase in the deposits in all the banks of the country. Discounts are getting cheaper, and good names do not have to go outside to get accommodations.

Pig Iron.—There is no change to note in prices, and shipments are about the same as usual. The movements in the direction of the Eastern States are increasing, and that section of the country is now looked upon as an important field for our products. Scarcity of Coke is still an important drawback to the total capacity of the furnaces, although it would seem from the efforts that have been made by the Coke men that this would soon be remedied, but the craters of the 22 large Coke furnaces that are dependent upon this article for their life are unsatisfied in their demands and still call for more. There is a noticeable increase in the demand for Pig, and it would seem from the amount that is daily turned out that there would be some piling up of stocks, but such is not the case to any extent, for Irons are slow of sale, while the furnaces that are turning out standard goods have no trouble whatever in selling their entire output before it is made.

Miscellaneous.—The most notable event of the week is the resolutions passed by the Board of Directors of the Roane Iron Co. to at once convert their works in this city into a Steel plant for the manufacture of Bessemer Steel. Movements have already been made in that direction. The capacity of the works will be about 140 tons per day. It is the intention of the company to utilize one or more of the furnaces in this district to smelt the Cranberry Ore, but they will erect a furnace as soon as practicable which will be run exclusively for making their own metal. The works will be under the immediate control of Mr. J. S. Goldstein, a gentleman well known in the Steel districts of both Missouri and Pennsylvania. The starting of these works, the establishment of the largest Pipe works in the world among us, and the eleven new blast furnaces that are now in course of construction in the Southern Iron district, are important items in the development of the Iron interests of the South.

Cincinnati.

JUNE 28, 1886.

Pig Iron.—From dealers there is no improvement reported in the market; transactions are confined to small orders to supply immediate wants. No considerable negotiations are reported for larger supply to consumers. The market stands in statu quo as to demand and prices. From the fact that it is apparent that there are more willing sellers than buyers, it is thought that present quotations will not be advanced in the near future. The outlook on the market is thought to be that present prices will obtain even as against the pressing efforts of sellers to get orders for Southern kinds. It is reported by producers of Hanging Rock Charcoal Irons that their product in prospect can all be placed at the quotations of

to-day. The products of the various Coke furnaces throughout the West and South will doubtless be placed for consumption, as it is produced at the best prices obtainable. Quotations of reported sales in the past week, f.o.b. cars here, or less the freight to Cincinnati when orders are filled direct from furnaces, are as follows:

Charcoal Foundry	
Hanging Rock, Best, No. 1, 4 mos.	\$21.00 @ 20.00
Hanging Rock, Good, No. 1, 4 mos.	20.00 @ 20.50
Hanging Rock, Good, No. 2, 4 mos.	18.50 @ 20.00
Southern No. 1, 4 mos.	18.00 @ 19.00
Southern No. 2, 4 mos.	17.50 @ 18.00
Coke Foundry	
Ohio and West Pennsylvania, No. 1, 4 mos.	18.00 @ 20.00
Ohio and West Pennsylvania, No. 2, 4 mos.	17.00 @ 18.00
Southern—Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, No. 1, 4 mos.	17.00 @ 18.00
Southern—Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, No. 2, 4 mos.	16.00 @ 17.00
Close Foundry and Mill grades	14.50 @ 15.50
Silver-Gray Softeners	
Ohio Stonecoal, No. 1, 4 mos.	17.50 @ 18.50
Ohio Stonecoal, No. 2, 4 mos.	16.50 @ 17.50
Ohio Stonecoal, No. 3, 4 mos.	15.00 @ 17.00
Car-Wheel	
Southern Warm-Blast Char-I. cash	17.50 @ 18.00
Southern Standard Warm-Blast Char-I. cash	23.00 @ 25.00
Hanging Rock, Warm-Blast Char-I. cash	19.00 @ 20.00
Hanging Rock, Cold-Blast Char-I. cash	23.00 @ 25.00
Southern Cold-Blast Char-I. cash	24.50 @ 26.00
Maryland and Virginia	27.00 @ 29.00
Forge	
Southern Coke, Neutral, 4 mos.	15.00 @ 15.50
Southern Coke, Cold Short, 4 mos.	14.00 @ 15.50
Southern Coke, low grades	13.50 @ 14.00
Other makes, various grades	15.00 @ 17.50
Scrap	
Rails, per ton	30.00 @ 30.50
Wheels, per ton	16.50 @ 17.00
Wrought, for range of grades, ½	50 @ 85
Cast, for range of grades, ½ 100 lb.	30 @ 45
Customary discount, 40¢ @ 50¢ per ton	
For car fr. in time price	

Louisville.

W. B. BELKNAP & Co., Louisville, write as follows, under date of June 28: Business continues moderate in volume. There is no anticipation of much advance in Manufactured Iron, but the shutting down of one mill on the Ohio River, which has taken the premium for the last year on low prices, may give additional strength to the rest. The establishment of mills at various points throughout the South and West has naturally caused restriction of the territory tributary to the older ones, and there is a good deal of complaint on this score from the latter. We are located about, as it were, on the dead point between North and South, and the two products meet here on common ground; the future alone can decide the pre-eminence. There promises to be a good demand for Apple Parers, and, as the fly season is now on, Horse Nails, Horseshoes, &c., are in better demand. The increased use of Wire Screens and Wire Cloth in this part of the country is a noticeable feature this season.

Bar Iron.—Is unchanged in price, but if any tendency is to be noticed it is toward a slight improvement in price.

Hoops and Bands.—Are low and seem likely to continue so.

Sheet.—There is a good deal of inquiry for Sheet, but still no advance in price. Several new mills are putting their product on the market this season, which, added to the increased output of the old ones, seems more than ample for demands. Rolling and Corrugated factories take up large quantities of Sheet, and the use of Iron for these purposes is growing in favor every day.

Nails.—The interesting feature of the week has been the settlement of the nailers' strike, now more than a year old. Nails, however, were selling so low that some of the largest manufacturers declare that they can stand no more shrinkage; that the nailers coming in will not affect the price.

Barb Wire.—Is moving but slowly. Manufacturers declare that they have made all the concessions possible; that any change shortly must be for the better.

Steel.—Some of the large contracts for Steel Agricultural Implement factories have been placed here lately, amounting to several thousand tons. Prices paid were an advance on last year, which means necessarily an advance in the cost of finished goods. Advances from large metal centers would indicate that Steel stock, both raw and finished, is almost sure to be maintained, if not materially advanced before the end of the year.

GEORGE H. HULL & Co., of Louisville, report to us as follows, under date of June 29: Inquiries for Iron during the last week have been more numerous than during the previous week. Although actual sales have not been quite so large, yet larger buyers are showing some disposition to take hold at present prices. Prices remain ostensibly the same as in our last report. We quote for cash in round lots as below:

Pig Iron	
Southern Coke, No. 1 Foundry	\$16.50 @ \$17.50
" " " " " "	15.00 @ 16.50
" " " " " "	15.00 @ 16.00
Hanging Rock Coke, No. 1 Foundry	16.50 @ 17.00
Hanging Rock Charcoal, No. 1 Foundry	18.00 @ 19.00
Southern Charcoal, No. 1 Foundry	17.50 @ 18.50
Silver Gray, different grades	14.00 @ 15.50
Southern Coke, No. 1 Mill, Neutral	14.50 @ 15.00
" " " " " "	13.50 @ 14.00
" " " " " "	14.00 @ 14.50
Charcoal, No. 1 Mill	17.00 @ 17.50
White and Mottled, different grades	12.00 @ 13.00
Southern Car-Wheel, standard brands	24.00 @ 25.00
Southern Car-Wheel, other brands	20.00 @ 21.00
Hanging Rock, Cold-Blast	24.00 @ 25.00
" " Warm-Blast	30.00 @ 31.00

Old Material.—The Old Material market is without quotable change either in demand or price. There have been some sales of Old Wheels perfected during the last week at what would be considered full prices. There are comparatively few Wheels offered in this locality. We quote for cash as below:

Rails, per ton	\$30.00 @ \$30.50
Wheels, per ton	14.50 @ 15.00
No. 1 Wrought, ½ 100	85 @ 90
No. 1 Country Wrought, ½ 100	70 @ 80
No. 2 Country Wrought, ½ 100	50 @ 60
No. 1 Cast, ½ 100	45 @ 55
Boilers, cut, ½ 100	60 @ 65
Boilers, uncut, ½ 100	40 @ 45
Flues, Tanks and Sheets, ½ 100	25 @ 30
Axis, ½ 100 lb.	1.50 @ 1.60

Detroit.

CHARLES HIMMEL & Co., dealers in Pig Iron, Detroit, Mich., report, under date of June 28, as follows: Business has been more than brisk during the past week, several large contracts for Pig Iron having been let, and not the least in figures—that is, respecting quantity—was Lake Superior Charcoal Iron, one large malleable concern in Ohio having purchased from this district about 2000 tons. We learn that several others are in the market, and it really looks very favorable for an excellent business, at this time of the year, when trade ordinarily is quite dull. After the large trade that comes immediately upon the opening of navigation there is comparatively little to follow until the Agricultural Implement men place their orders at the first of the fall. This extra business in so large a volume as it is makes the Pig-Iron men feel quite jubilant over the prospects for the future, as well as over the actual results of the present. It is an obvious fact, if one glances over the Pig-Iron statistics as published, that there is more Iron being produced to-day than at any previous time, but still it is none the less true that there is an equally large consumption, and there can be little doubt that if the present activity and large demand continue prices will stiffen very materially before the end of the year. Old Material follows in line, with prices advanced a little, and apparently is a scarce article in the market. Particularly may this be said of Old Wheels, and we think the market fairly quotable to-day as follows:

Lake Superior Charcoal, all numbers	\$22.00 @ \$22.50
Lake Superior Coke, All Ore	20.25 @ 21.00
Lake Superior Coke, Cinder Mixed	19.00 @ 20.00
Standard Ohio Blackband	20.25 @ 21.00
Southern No. 2	17.00 @ 17.50
Southern Silvery, Open	17.00 @ 17.50
Southern Silvery, Close	16.50 @ 17.00
Jackson County, Ohio Silvery	18.50 @ 19.00
American Old Iron Rails	20.00 @ 22.00
Old Wheels	17.00 @ 17.50

Baltimore.

W. N. WYTH, Iron and Steel merchant, 46 and 48 South Charles street, reports us the following, under date of June 28: Since our last report trade has ruled about the same as then stated—that is, quiet and depressed—and the little business doing is transacted at about cost. No improvement is looked for during the approaching heated term, but it is confidently expected a change for the better must manifest itself early in the fall on the basis that there is an end to every rope. We quote the list nominally unchanged at annexed figures:

Ref. Bar Iron, 1 to 6 x ½ to 1	\$1.85 @ 2.10
" " 1 to 4½ x 1½ to 1	\$1.85 @ 2.10
" " ¾ to 2, Round	
and Square	\$1.85 @ 2.10
Hoop Iron, 1½ wide and upward	\$2.25 @ 2.50
Band Iron, from 1½ to 6 in. wide	2.30 @ 2.50
Horse Shoe Iron	2.30 @ 2.50
Norway Nail Rods	5 @ 5.50
Black Diamond Cast Steel	9 @ 10
Machinery Steel	3.50 @ 4.50
Spring Steel	3.50 @ 4.50
Common Horse Nails	8 @ 9
Railroad Spikes, ¾ x 9-10	2.30 @ 2.50
Perkins's Horse Shoes, ½ keg of 100 lb.	\$4.85
" " " " "	4.85
Boiler Tubes	\$2.50 @ 3.00 list

St. Louis.

ROGERS, BROWN & Co., St. Louis, W. H. SHIELDS, manager, report, under date of June 28: There is considerably more inquiry, and prices are correspondingly a little firmer. A better feeling prevails all round. There is good inquiry both for Old Rails and Old Wheels. We quote:

Charcoal Foundry	
Missouri	\$17.00 @ \$18.50
Southern	17.50 @ 18.50
Coal and Coke Foundry	
Southern, No. 1	17.50 @ 18.50
Southern, No. 2	16.50 @ 17.50
Ohio Softeners	17.00 @ 20.00
Mill Iron	
Missouri	16.00 @ 16.50
Southern	15.00 @ 16.00
Car-Wheel and Malleable Irons	
Southern	20.00 @ 25.00
Lake Superior	21.00 @ 25.00
Scrap, etc.	
Old Wheels	@ 16.00
Connellsville Coke (Frick's)	@ 3.55

Coal Market.

The week has been as dull as any this season, except as some little stir has been made here and there by the report of a probable advance in prices in July. This report has been made the most of in some instances, and sales have been made on the strength of it, but, as an old observer remarks, "people don't scare as much now as they used to." The standard companies as a rule report everything quiet, aside from deliveries on old account, and no special change is looked for right away. Prices are very much cut up among dealers generally, and can only be quoted at a wide range on account of different views and necessities. The average for Stove may be put down at \$3.15 @ \$3.40, f.o.b. Exceptions as low as \$3 are heard of for inferior grades. Lehigh Broken and Egg are sold about \$3 @ \$3.25; Stove, \$3.20 @ \$3.40; Nut, \$3 @ \$3.15; Pea Coal, \$2. Eastern men are inclined to advance rates of freight.

Bituminous Coal is quiet at about \$3.25. The total amount of Anthracite Coal sent to market for the week, as reported by the several carrying companies, was 542,177 tons, compared with 627,356 tons in the corresponding week last year, an increase of 14,821 tons. The total amount of Anthracite mined thus far in the year 1886 is 13,776,727 tons, compared with 12,090,204 tons for the same period last year, an increase of 1,686,523 tons.

The official figures to the 1st inst. show that the quota for the first three months has been exceeded by nearly 500,000 tons, so that now there is a considerable surplus, which must be further increased should the market be unable to take the full quantity of Coal to be mined in July—2,500,000 tons. The Reading Co. began the shipment of Anthracite to Baltimore and Washington on Monday last at \$1.75 per ton freight.

Trade Report.

General Hardware.

The market presents few new features, and is not characterized by uniformity in tone, a few goods indicating a tendency toward lower prices and others being held at somewhat higher figures. The general tendency is, however, regarded as being toward firmness in price, and some advances are announced. The special features of the market are noted below.

BARB WIRE.

The New York Barb Wire trade is quiet, with a tendency in buyers' favor, the demand being moderate, as is usually the case in this season. The decline in Barb Wire during the past few months is due to the disappointingly small spring trade, which has in turn affected Plain Wire. The latter has been sold at very low figures in the West lately, a fact which may be held to account partly for the existing condition of affairs.

NAILS.

The New York Nail market is still irregular, some sellers declining to meet the lowest quotations made. It is pointed out in behalf of the Nail trade that the coming summer months will see the usual stoppages for repairs, &c., prolonged voluntarily by a number of the works. The starting of the Western mills, to which we allude editorially this week, is not expected to have any direct effect upon the Eastern market, the Western mills having for some time past fully covered the requirements of the Western trade, so that that territory invaded by the Eastern mills during the strike has been virtually abandoned by them some time since. We quote \$2 to \$2.05 for small lots of Iron Nails from store, with concessions for carload lots from dock.

MISCELLANEOUS PRICES.

Carriage Bolts are still held at about the figures that have prevailed for some time, but some of the manufacturers who have been refusing to meet extreme quotations are making concessions, and there is a nearer approach to uniformity in prices than there has been of late.

The low prices that have for some time been prevailing on Chisels and Drawing Knives have led the manufacturers to confer with reference to measures for an advance in the prices of this line of goods. A meeting was accordingly held in this city last Thursday, at which the leading manufacturers were represented. After thorough discussion an advance was determined upon, and an extreme price named beyond which the goods are not to be sold.

The manufacturers of Augers and Bits held a meeting in this city last Thursday, at which action was taken making a further advance of about 5 per cent. in the price of this line of goods. The former prices were referred to as very generally sustained. The increased cost of the goods and the narrow margin at the late extreme rates are referred to as the reasons for this further advance.

The File market is characterized by some irregularities, and prices are slightly lower.

There is no material change in the Tack market since our last report, prices remaining about as at that time, with a tendency toward lower figures on some lines. There is, it will be borne in mind, some irregularity in the prices named by different manufacturers on the different kinds of Tacks. The tenor of our reports would indicate that the sales at the present time are limited.

Yerkes & Plumb, Philadelphia, advise us that they have mailed the following retail trade discount sheet to Hardware jobbers, requesting them to be governed by it in making their sales of this line of goods. As showing the goods manufactured by this house and the prices at which they are thus quoted it will be of interest to our readers:

	Dis. per cent.
Hammers, "Artisan's Choice" A. E. & A. E. B.	40
Hammers, A. E. & A. E. B. P. Nail	40
Hammers, all A. E. Farriers	40
Hammers, all Plain Eye Farriers	40
Hammers, A. E. Riveting	40
Hammers, Plain Eye Riveting	40
Hammers, Turners Riveting and Panning	40
Hammers, Engineers	40
Hammers, Blacksmiths' Hand	40
Hammers, Coopers	40
Hammers, Machinists	40
Hammers, Carriage Ironers	40
Hammers, Machinists' Octagon Pattern	40
Hammers, Chipping and Prospecting	40
Hammers, Brad and Carpet	40
Hammers, Shoe	40
Hammers, Vulcan Tool Co.'s A. E. Nail	40
Hammers, Vulcan Tool Co.'s Plain Eye Nail	40
Hammers, Quaker City Mfg. Co.'s A. E. and A. E. B. P. Nail	40
Hammers, A. E. Brick	40
Hammers, H. S. Turning	40
Hatchets, Shingling and Claw	40
Hatchets, Half and Lathing	40
Hatchets, Broad	40
Hatchets, Barrel and Warehouse	40
Hatchets, S. C. S. Shingling and Half	40
Hatchets, S. C. S. A. E. B. P., Shingling and Half	40
Hatchets, S. C. S. A. E. B. P., Lathing	40
Hatchets, Lathing, Philadelphia Pattern	40
Hatchets, Lathing, Chicago Pattern	40
Hatchets, Lathing, Boston Pattern	40
Hatchets, Lathing	40
Hooks, Bush, Axe-Handle and Two Rings	40
Cleavers and Choppers	40
Axes, Boys' and Hunters	40
Axes, Broad, Canada Pattern	40
Axes, Broad, Ohio Pattern	40
Axes, Broad, Penn. or Pittsburgh Pattern	40
Axes, Broad, Western Pattern	40
Axes, Broad, N. O., Canada and Ship	40
Adzes, Carpenters	40
Adzes, Railroad	40
Adzes, Ship Carpenters	40
Hammers, Drilling or Striking	40
Hammers, Masons' and Sorting	40
Hammers, Bush and Napping	40
Hammers, Boiler-makers	40

Hammers, Spalling or Stone	60
Hammers, R. S. Hand	60
Hammers, Macadamizing	60
Sledges, Blacksmiths' and Coal	60
Sledges, H. S. Turning and Stone	60
Axes, Stone	60
Mauls, Railroad and Ship	60
Mauls, Wood-Choppers' Straight Cut	60
Wedges, Oregon Pattern	60
Wedges, Truckee Pattern	60
Wedges, Coal	60
Wedges, Stone	60
Hammers, Vul. Tool Co.'s Striking	60
Sledges, Vul. Tool Co.'s Blacksmith and Stone	60
Wedges, Vul. Tool Co.'s Truckee Pattern	60
Wedges, Quaker City Mfg. Co.'s	60
Picks, Broder, Mill and Stone	50
Chisels, R. R. Track, Cold and Hot	50
Chisels, Hand Chipping and Cape	50
Pincers, Nippers and Buttresses	50
Tongs, Blacksmiths'	50
Swedges, Fullers, Flatteners, Hardies Set Hammers and Creasers	50
Punches, Heading Tools and Pritchels	50
Bar, Railroad Claw	50

The Nimick & Brittan Mfg. Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., issue a circular announcing the recent changes in Lock list, and giving the following as the new list prices of the Locks affected: No. 0221, \$2.40; No. 0401, \$2.65; No. 01051, \$2.40.

The Custer Beam Works, Philadelphia, Pa., have been recently improving the quality of their Keystone Scale Beams, which they are putting prominently upon the market this season. Their discount on the Keystone Improved is 60 and 5 to 60 and 10 per cent.

A meeting of the manufacturers of Cast-Iron Shelf Hardware was held last week in this city, when the following houses were represented:

PECK, STOW & WILCOX CO.
SARGENT & CO.
RUSSELL & ERWIN MFG. CO.
READING HARDWARE CO.
P. & F. CORBIN.

After a discussion of the condition of the market it was decided to make an advance of about 10 per cent. in this line of goods, but the precise discounts are not yet announced, the discount sheets being still in preparation. We are advised that the Perin & Gaff Mfg. Co. have since united in this action.

The Payson Mfg. Co., Chicago, Ill., have recently added two additional large sizes to their line of Transom Lifters, making their assortment of these goods to be represented by the following list, which is subject to a discount of 40 per cent.:

	Each.
No. 250, 3 ft. long, 14-inch rod, Bronzed Iron	\$0.50
No. 251, 4 ft. long, 14-inch rod, Bronzed Iron	0.70
No. 261, 4 feet long, 5-16-inch rod	1.10
No. 262, 5 feet long, 5-16-inch rod	1.25
No. 273, 6 feet long, 5-16-inch rod	1.70
No. 275, 8 feet long, 5-16-inch rod	2.10

The following is the price list of Payson's Fish Stringers, a description of which is given among our Hardware Novelties on page 35, the list being subject to a discount of 45 per cent.:

No. 225, Iron Head and Steel Wire, per doz.	\$6.00
No. 226, Brass Head and Steel Wire	12.00
No. 227, Brass Head and Brass Wire, per doz.	24.00

ITEMS.

The Field Force Pump Co., Lockport, N. Y., in their revised illustrated catalogue and price list for 1886-87, illustrate their line of Lift and Force Pumps, Field's Improved Force Pumps, Economy Garden Engine, and a line of Cistern Pumps and other Iron and Brass goods. The introductory circular refers to the fact that they have added several new styles and sizes of Pumps, and have endeavored to make such changes as will serve the convenience of the trade. They also allude to their business as having steadily increased during the past three years, and to additions to their factory, giving increased facilities which enable them to fill orders promptly. They advise us that their smaller Pumps are extensively used to apply poisonous liquids to trees, plants and vines for the destruction of the apple aphid, codling worm, &c., and to destroy the cotton worm also, and the scale bug on orange trees. As leading articles they refer to the Farmers' Force Pump, which is alluded to as especially adapted for spraying poisonous liquids on fruit trees, watering gardens and lawns, washing carriages, &c., and to the Household and Well Force Pumps.

The Empire Knife Co., West Winsted, Conn., announce to the trade that they have appointed McCoy & Sanders, 26 Warren street, New York, sole agents for the sale of the Empire Pocket Knives in the West and South, to whom orders may be directed with the assurance that they will receive prompt attention. They also call attention to their new solid Steel Blade Shear, with gold plated bow, guaranteed to hold its color and not to tarnish. It is claimed that it will wear as well as nickel plate, and makes an exceptionally attractive Shear.

E. Broad & Sons, St. Stephen, N. B., Canada, issue a very attractive catalogue, with illustrations, of some of their leading goods. It represents a line of Axes, Edge Tools, Picks, Hammers, &c. It is announced that they can supply Axes, Edge Tools, &c., of other patterns not represented in the catalogue, as it is their desire to furnish goods suited to every market. Alluding to the fact that they have found a market for their goods during the past 42 years in the Maritime Provinces of Canada, with increased facilities and improved machinery, they are prepared to extend their business to other parts of Canada and foreign countries.

Chas. W. Packer, Philadelphia, manufacturer of Ice Cream Freezers, refers to his new patent, March 10, 1885, as adding an important feature to the Freezers. The object of this patent is to secure a thorough

scrapping of the Can during freezing, and this is accomplished by a vibratory motion imparted to the scraping bar by which it automatically conforms itself to the inner surface of the can. The beater of the Standard Freezer is constructed with deflectors and lifters of a peculiar form, which are referred to as securing the maximum amount of agitation without multiplying external motions or gearing.

The much-talked-of game of ball between the nines of Sargent & Co. and Smith, Lyon & Field was witnessed last Saturday by a large delegation of Hardwaremen. The game was closely contested, and finally won by the Smith, Lyon & Field Club, the score being as follows:

Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sargent & Co.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-7
Smith, Lyon & Field	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	—	—

The trade will observe the announcement on page 36 in which Joseph Allen, Palmyra, N. Y., calls attention to his Combined Anvil and Vise, an illustration of which is there given. His circular relating to it refers to it as a convenient tool for farmers and mechanics, embracing as it does in one article such a variety of iron-working tools. The moderate price at which it is offered is also alluded to.

Henry C. Duggan, who is known to the trade as the president of the Duggan-Parker Hardware Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo., has resigned that position, and he advises us that his address in future will be care of James L. Haven & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Bartlett & Dow, Lowell, Mass., in addition to their Hardware business, are manufacturing a few specialties in Dairy Goods, among which Milking Tubes and the Common Sense Milk Pail are described in circulars which they issue.

Our readers will observe the announcement made by the Covert Mfg. Co., Troy, N. Y., page 18, in regard to the infringement of patents on their goods, with a special reference to the Covert patent for Rope Clamps, September 17, 1878.

We are in receipt of circulars issued by King's Great Western Powder Co., 200 Main street, Cincinnati, Ohio, relating to the Powder of their manufacture, with illustrations and descriptions of the different kinds and sizes, some of which are represented in their advertisement on page 38. They call particular attention to King's Quick Shot, a special brand of sporting Powder, which they have recently put on the market, and which is offered as the result of close and scientific attention to the production of an article of the requisite qualities. Attention has been given to the finish, size of grain and the details of manufacture, and the Powder is referred to as clean, strong, quick and cheap. The company issue a handy book for trap shooters and sportsmen, in which, besides the description of their Powders and testimonials from sportsmen, a variety of useful information is given, including a brief digest of game laws in different States, trap-shooting rules adopted by the National Gun Association, &c.

Dame, Stoddard & Kendall, Boston, Mass., issue a price list of Robert Murphy's Corkscrews, Oyster Knives, Shoe Knives and fine Steel Implements, for which they are agents. This illustrated list, representing well-known goods, will be appreciated by the trade, especially as relating to a line that, although sold for 25 years, has not before been represented in a complete price list. The leading goods to which it relates are Murphy's Hand-forged Skiving and Rubber Knives, Oyster Knives of numerous patterns, Corkscrews represented in full size, Steel Fish Spears and Gaff Hooks, which are shown in half size, Sardine Shears, Cheese and Flour Tryers, with many other articles of miscellaneous character. Prominent mention is made of the fact that the trade may rely upon the thoroughly good qualities of all articles bearing the stamp R. Murphy, Boston, very special care being taken to select steel adapted to the article to be made, and so hardened and tempered as to fit it for the particular work it is expected to do.

Our readers will observe the advertisement among the Special Notices on page 24 in which "W. H. S." makes known his desire for a position with a Hardware or Iron house, and refers to his experience as book-keeper, traveling salesman and agent for manufacturers.

The Chicopee Falls Screw Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass., have appointed J. C. McCarty & Co., 97 Chambers street, New York, their sole agents for the sale of their Screws, and have authorized them to quote their lowest prices and best terms. Orders and inquiries, it is stated, addressed to them will receive attention upon as favorable terms as if sent direct to the factory. The company purpose keeping in their store a stock sufficient to meet the ordinary requirements of the trade for immediate delivery.

WHAT THE TRADE SAY.

From Virginia we have the following communication relating to the putting up of shelf goods and other topics:

The discussions in your paper regarding better packages for shelf goods I most sincerely trust may bring forth the desired results, for I feel assured that the retailers will favor the goods of the makers who will act on this idea. I for one will take no other. If we will only pull together we can make the manufacturer give us what we are justly entitled to—better packages.

"Scratch All" is a brick; but why does he continue to place his orders with the man who charged 2 per cent. for P. and C.? I would not do it. The wholesale drug people do not make any charge for boxes, packing or cartage, and surely they do as close a business as any Hardware concern, with as much loss in broken bottles, jars, &c., as any Hardware manufacturer. Let the jobber in Hardware consult the drug men and find out the secret of this, and adopt their method, and I will wager a nickel he will find his mail orders larger when once it is found out that he is doing so. When the cost of packing, boxing and cartage is included in a bill of goods, the retailer in marking goods does not have to add to an article a small amount to cover this, and, besides, he wants to know the cost of his goods placed on the sidewalk, for the 2 per cent. cash discount will generally overpay freight charges. Again let me urge my brother retailers to copy after the retail druggists and demand goods f.o.b. They get it, and why should not we? They are organized for self-protection and advancement. I hope this matter may be urged, and kept going until some enterprising jobbing house tries it.

The following suggestion is from a Hardware house in this State, and, if the matter to which it relates is one in which the trade are interested, we shall be glad to hear in reply to our correspondent's inquiry:

The labor question is of such importance that anything on the subject is of interest. We would like to know how much is the average clerk hire for ordinary country Hardware stores like ours—in a place of 10,000. As long as names are not published we do not see why any one should object to giving their expense in the way of clerk hire, as compared to their sales.

A Western Hardwareman alludes with approval to the suggestion made by one of our correspondents that the convenience of the trade would be served if manufacturers of Copper Rivets and Burrs would put up the goods in half-pound assorted packages. He remarks that the manufacturer who first offers the goods in this way will be blessed with an increase of trade.

A Massachusetts Hardwareman refers as follows to a matter of some importance which has not been alluded to by any of our correspondents:

We should be glad if any of your numerous subscribers would give us some system whereby there could be some check to prevent goods being delivered without being charged on the books by the clerk, a carelessness that must be a large expense to every retail house in the country.

The following letter from a dealer in Hardware and Stoves explains itself:

I was quite surprised at seeing my drayman backing up in front of my store with a Heating Stove a few days ago. In the following mail I received a letter from the firm sending the Stove, saying that their representative would be around in a short time to show up the Stove to me. The firm sending it was known to me only by reputation. My trade is in a territory which does not belong to them, and the only thing ever purchased of them was a Grate to a Cooking Stove. The feeling presented itself to my mind that they were too intimate on short acquaintance. A few days after another Stove came in the same way, without any solicitation or knowledge of mine. I then told my drayman to bring no more home-made Stoves unless I saw them first. These sample Stoves have gone into the cellar, and are being held for the freight I paid on them. Is there no help for the retailer, but must be the recipient of desirable or undesirable Stoves?

With reference to a statement which appeared in the letter of one of our correspondents in our last issue, we have received the following communication from the head of a leading wholesale Hardware house in Kansas, and we take pleasure in laying it before our readers:

To the Editor of The Iron Age: I notice in the Trade Report of June 17 an item of news to the effect that Western jobbers at a meeting at Kansas City decided that Chicago jobbers should not sell Hardware west of the Mississippi. I attended that meeting, and so far as I know, nothing of the kind was decided. Chicago jobbers might decide that question, but this is supposed to be a free country, and they are supposed to have the right to sell their goods anywhere they can find a market for them.

A correspondent in Chicago, for whom the controversy relating to packing and cartage charges has interest, sends us the following:

Mr. "Scratch All" says he is "willing to pay a reasonable price for services actually rendered." Exact cost would, we presume be a reasonable price. The figures given while assumed, are in exact proportion to the actual figures paid in hard cash by the firm referred to for "package and cartage," and the charges made to their customers at the foot of invoices are not duplicated "indirectly" in the price of their goods, very many of which are sold at lower prices than the manufacturer would sell them for in like quantities, or could sell them for, without actual loss.

In reply to his question I beg to say that the "salaries of the men, expenses of horse keeping, &c., are not summed up with rent, clerk hire, &c., and made a part of the cost of goods in that way." The packing and cartage are made a separate department of the business. The capital employed, the salaries of the men engaged, the barn expenses, boxes, lumber, nails, tools, &c., are charged to the department, which is credited with the amount collected from customers, and with an annual inventory of stock remaining on hand. The department almost always loses a little money, because in making charges to customers sufficient account is not taken of delays and accidents incident to business in the crowded streets of a large city, and of the wear and tear to horses, wagons,

harness, tools, &c. Their charges are always uniform for the service actually rendered, and as satisfactory to their customers as a charge of any kind would be. The amount of capital employed and business transacted in the department would only be equalled in the largest retail Hardware stores in the country. I object to this method of detecting "petty frauds on the retailer" by percentage of cartage on his bills. A case worth 50 cents will hold \$100 worth of Pocket Knives, while it will only hold \$2 worth of Tinware. It is impossible to determine actual value of services rendered in that way. It is equally impossible for the jobber to add an equitable percentage covering this item to all his goods and collect it indirectly, as will appear from a comparison of cases required for \$100 worth of Tinware and \$100 worth of Pocket Cutlery. No charge is made for packing goods shipped in original packages which have been included in the manufacturer's cost of them. The cases from original packages broken up are utilized as far as possible, but they are never charged for at the price of new boxes, while the cost of lumber, nails and labor used in "coopering" them often makes them cost nearly as much as new boxes would.

"Pennsylvania" entertains some very queer ideas, or I do not understand him. His idea is to compel the jobber in some way to diminish his charges for package and cartage, or collect them in some indirect way. I do not doubt the travelers find him a "daisy" to sell goods to, and are compelled, if they gain any profit off their transactions with him, to substitute some indirect charges to get even on concessions of direct charges he forces from them. The Tinware, House-Furnishing Goods and Bird-Cage houses include the cost of package in the price of their goods, and it is a large percentage of their cost. If these houses, after getting pay for their packages, did business on the narrow margin of Western General Hardware houses, they could not live, the volume of business transacted being so much smaller. There are very few houses in the lines mentioned in this country where the capital employed and the volume of business transacted would equal the package and cartage department in the house I have referred to, and the percentage of expenses for packing and cartage included in the price of their goods is probably five times greater.

The "supply houses" he refers to I suppose mean the retail houses who advertise to sell at retail at wholesale prices. They are a sort of "bushwhackers" in legitimate trade, and competitors of both retailers and wholesale dealers. Their stocks are made up of special lines, job lots, fire goods, &c. Their prices are generally above the jobbers' price for goods of like quality, and often below what the small retailer can afford to sell his goods for in a legitimate way. Some of them do a quite successful business, some of them do not; competition with them is impossible unless you go into the same kind of business. Their customers assume some risks they do not assume in trading with the legitimate retailer. "Pennsylvania's" attempts to force jobbers or manufacturers to put him on a footing, so he can make money and compete with them, will fail. He will risk losing his business and make himself odious without gain if he persists in them. His better course is to recognize only the competition in his town, to bear in mind that his neighbor pays the same prices, the same charges for packing and cartage and similar expenses. In making up his cost he should add to each item in his bill its legitimate share of the packing and cartage charged at the foot of his bill, and in fixing his selling price should add a percentage great enough to compensate him for "services actually rendered," store expenses and use of his capital, considering that his neighbor must do the same to make his business successful.

If he will do this he will then conform exactly to the practice of the house I have referred to in its packing and cartage department, and to what I suppose to be the practice in all respectable mercantile houses, whether wholesale or retail. Your Detroit correspondent refers to the over reaching jobber and the unscrupulous and unreasonable retail dealer. For the former, when his tricks appear, it is better to "cross him off the list, he won't be missed." The other fellow don't always know exactly what is just and reasonable, and with some it appears as if

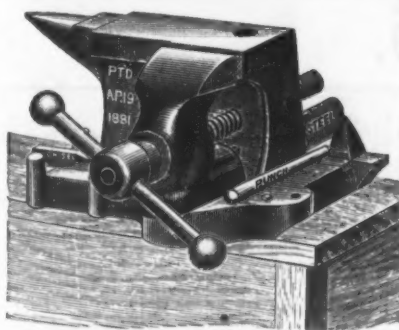
"The more they have their wants increase, Complaints and cravings never cease."

Just what to do with him cannot be defined in a general rule. Each case requires to be judged on its individual merits. If I find him dishonest I quit him; if merely unreasonable I try to make the reasonable view apparent to him, and if too troublesome I put him on the list and plainly tell him so for the good of his other correspondents.

HAND VS. MACHINE CUT FILES.

The tests in Sheffield which we recently referred to as being arranged for, with a view to determining the relative qualities of machine and hand cut files, have not yet been made. Referring to this matter, and alluding to a contest made several years ago, the correspondent of the *Ironmonger* writes as follows:

While the arrangements are in progress for a *bona fide* test of the relative merits of the two systems of File-cutting, it may be interesting to give the particulars of a private test which was conducted by a large local firm some six or seven years ago, and the result of which had an important influence upon the after policy of the firm with regard to their system of manufacture. Although the test was a private one, it was conducted with scrupulous fairness to both systems of cutting, and the workmen and foremen who had the carrying out of the operation were not permitted to know by which process the Files which they used were cut. I have had an opportunity of inspecting the documents which record the conditions under which the test was made, and the results arrived at, and I append particulars. Twelve 12-inch Hand Bastard Safe-Edge Files were forged and hardened out of the same material by the firm making the experiment. Of these six were cut by hand on the premises, and six were



J. ALLEN'S COMBINED ANVIL AND VISE.

Patented April 19, 1881.

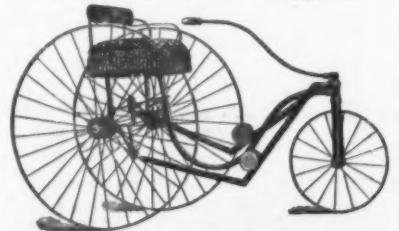
Weights 16 lbs.; Parallel Vise opens 2 1/4 inches; Width of Jaw, 2 in.; Anvil Face, 2 x 4 1/2 in.; Horn, 2 1/2 in.; whole length, 7 in.

Has three Bending Guides, one Pyramidal Block, one Wedge-shaped Block, one Punch Block, &c. Packed two in a box, with Cold Chisel, Punch and two Cutch Screws for each. Price, \$3. Discount to the trade.

Invented and Manufactured by
J. ALLEN,
Proprietor, Palmyra Scale and Mch. Works,
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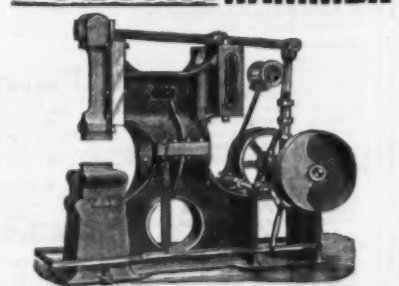


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Holds from 500 to 800 feet of 1 1/2-inch hose; 44-inch wheels; Patent Swing Tool Box; no weight on handles; nickel-plated trimmings; light and easily handled. Price, including 300 feet best quality 1 1/2-inch hose, coupled, \$100.

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The Best in the World.

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THE WEEK.

Divers at work on the sunken Oregon report that the wreck is fast going to pieces from the action of the currents and swelling of the cargo in the hold. The iron masts are still firm in their places and assist the divers in their descent. They expect to continue the work all summer. Excepting a few bales of carpeting, cotton cloth and india-rubber, the goods recovered are of little value.

Gen. Alexander Shaler was formally removed on Friday by Mayor Grace from his office as president of the Board of Health. The Governor must approve the Mayor's action before it becomes operative.

The franchise of the United States Heating and Power Co., including nearly 1 mile of pipe down town, east of Broadway, was sold to N. J. Newkirk for \$4700.

An extensive frontage on the lake at Painesville, Ohio, has been secured in the interest of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad as a western outlet for coal, and extensive contracts for iron ore are said to have been made with firms in Johnstown and with Ward's Transportation Line.

An African line of steamers to ply between Baltimore and the Congo River has been incorporated at Washington, with a proposed capital of \$2,000,000. Henry Cox is president. If Europeans can find profitable trade on the African Coast, why not Americans?

There landed in the United States during the 11 months ending May 31 284,274 immigrants, as compared with 306,902 in the corresponding period in 1884-85. There is less immigration from Germany, but more from Sweden and Norway; from the United Kingdom about the same.

Twenty-nine postal clerks of the railway mail service were removed from roads in the Northwest for insubordination in conspiring to obstruct the regulation of the service by the Post Office Department and to injure its efficiency. General Superintendent John Jameson says: "They have secretly attempted to form an association with a view to dictate action to the department, and many of them have also been guilty of deception toward their fellow-clerks by representing the purpose of such association to be merely benevolent, and thus entangling them."

A street parade of the various trades in New York, July 5, is being arranged by the Central Labor Union.

Mr. Powderly, in an interview with a reporter, discussed the question of convict labor in its bearings upon the Knights of Labor. Being informed that convicts were doing the stonework on the county prison, he stated with quiet drollery that, "if the managers of these institutions will persist in using convict labor in erecting their buildings, I would suggest that the Knights of Labor place a rigid boycott upon all such institutions by withdrawing their patronage and remaining out of them."

The editor of the Philadelphia News is ecstatic over his discoveries of natural gas in Pittsburgh. He says it was not until three years ago "that the slow manufacturers of that city awakened to a realization of the fact that they had within reach the greatest natural power that man had ever dreamed of; greater than electricity and greater than steam, because it is more utilizable than the one and more powerful than the other. So wonderful is their new resource that by this time I believe the most progressive among them appreciate the fact that they are on the verge of a complete commercial revolution, and that within 10 years Pittsburgh will be the greatest manufacturing city in the world." The writer estimated the increased productive power of the rolling mills in Allegheny and Pittsburgh at fully 25 per cent. as a consequence of the gas discoveries, and the quality of steel made is unsurpassed.

The president and general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railroad are reported from Halifax to contemplate the selection of that port for their Atlantic terminus, and to run fast trains to the Pacific terminus in 120 hours. They also count on securing the tea trade of the continent by means of their Pacific steamers.

It is said that 800 of the 1300 strikers on the Third Avenue Railroad who went out more than two months ago are unemployed, and many of them in a condition bordering on starvation. President Lyon insists that the boycott must be declared off before he can listen to overtures for re-engagement.

The first American establishment for the exclusive manufacture of edged tools was founded in 1826 by Samuel Collins, of Collinsville, Conn. The forging and tempering of eight broadaxes were the product of a day's labor.

The new steamship La Bourgogne, Captain Frangeul, from Havre, which arrived in New York on Saturday, made the passage in the remarkably quick time of seven days, five hours and eight minutes mean time, the fastest passage on record between the two ports, her average speed being a little over 18 1/4 miles per hour. She resembles the Etruria, of the Cunard Line, which has surpassed all others in fast sailing, as respects

her general dimensions, except that she has less beam by 8 feet, although not quite so long. The French builders, therefore, believe in narrow ships and a sharp prow. La Bourgogne is 508 feet long, 52 feet 2 inches wide and 38 feet 4 inches in depth of hold. She is moved by one 26-ton propeller, 22 feet 8 inches in diameter, and has a maximum of 8100 horse-power. The metallic parts of her hull are made of the first quality of steel. She is rigged with four metal masts, and her sails are hoisted and lowered by steam power. The entire expense of building La Bourgogne was \$1,775,000, nearly three times as much as any other vessel in the French merchant marine. She registers 7000 tons.

To Japan by rail is the latest project. Major Powell, superintendent of the Geological Survey, in a report to the Secretary of the Interior, advocates a bill to facilitate the settlement and develop the resources of Alaska, and to open a commercial route between the United States and Japan. Major Powell says that a railroad is feasible over the vast intermediate territory, and that the difficulties to be overcome are not greater than have already been mastered in constructing the transcontinental roads already in operation. He says the distance from Northern Montana to Behring's Sea is 2800 miles. This distance, for convenience, he divides into three parts, as follows: First, from some point on the Northern Pacific Railroad in Montana to the head waters of the Peace River; second, from the head waters of the Peace River to the head waters of the Yukon; third, from the head waters of the Yukon to some point on the shore of Behring's Sea.

A new dirigible balloon of colossal dimensions, says the *Deutsche Heeres Zeitung*, is now in the course of construction in Berlin. The inventor, Herr Gaswindt, hopes to overcome the grand difficulty in aeronautics—the attainment of a speed greater than the average velocity of the wind—by the enormous size of his balloon. A series of meteorological observations, extending over several years, has shown that near the earth the velocity of the wind in the temperate zone rarely exceeds 12 m. per second, and Herr Gaswindt expects to attain a speed of not less than 14 to 15 m. A sum of 200,000 marks, it is said, has already been offered for the patent. The balloon is 150 m. in length and 15 m. in diameter, with a capacity of 18,000 c. m., about 10 times as great as that of the Renard and Krebs balloon. The total weight is about 43,000 pounds, the envelope and netting alone representing 10,000 pounds. The propelling machinery consists of two steam engines of 50 horse-power each. The cost is estimated at 100,000 marks (\$50,000).

The operation of the railways in New Jersey last year was attended with an unusual number of casualties. The Pennsylvania heads the list with 82 killed and 393 injured out of a total of 201 killed and 526 injured.

The Maine Steamship Co., of Portland, have contracted with the New England Shipbuilding Co., Bath, for a new wooden steamer 220 feet long and of about 1500 tons net register, to make the trip between New York and Portland in 24 hours. The new steamer will be supplied with every modern improvement.

The El Monte, a new steamer for the Morgan Line, was launched at Wm. Cramp & Sons' yards, Philadelphia, on Saturday last, and will be put on the line in September. The El Monte is 351 1/2 feet in length, 42.8 feet beam and 32 1/2 feet depth of hold. When laden she will draw 22 feet. The carrying capacity will be 9000 bales of cotton. She is not built to carry passengers, but will have one large room built especially for the storage of mail matter, powder and specie. She will be supplied with a compound engine of 2400 horse-power, and will be rigged with four iron masts, and have all the latest improvements in steam steering gear, windlasses, capstans, &c., and six patent adjustable steam hoisting machines for handling cargo.

The new building for the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange, to be completed near the lower end of Broadway, has been leased for five years, at the yearly rental of \$110,000, with privilege of 15 years' renewal, and of purchasing at any time within the said first five years of said lease for \$1,500,000. The dimensions of the building are 80 x 200 feet.

A member of the Fruit Growers' Association of the United States claims to have invented a cheap evaporator suited to general use which is far more effective than the more expensive description. The process is complete in from two to three hours. The evaporator is a marvel of simplicity, and can be made by any one at a very trifling cost. By its use millions of dollars can be saved the producer and consumer each year.

The National American Shipping League effected a permanent organization in Washington last week. The avowed purpose of the organization is to influence public sentiment, Congressional elections, &c., in the interest of legislation dictated by the shipping interest. The delegates were mainly interested in the bounty and subsidy propositions, but had little hope of either in the present Congress. The following officers

were elected: Dandridge McRae, of Arkansas, president; Ambrose Snow, of New York, first vice president; L. M. Merritt, of Florida, second vice president; Charles S. Hill, of Washington, secretary, and A. Vanderbilt, of New York, treasurer.

It is said that Mr. Edison has decided to remove his entire plant from this city to the McQueen Locomotive Works, at Schenectady, which he has recently purchased.

The finest piece of masonry in Western Pennsylvania is said to be L. C. No. 4, on the Monongahela River, between Monongahela City and Brownsville. It will have cost, when completed, upward of \$200,000, and will accommodate the rapidly-increasing traffic on the Monongahela for decades to come. The lock is 230 feet long, with a passageway of 225 feet. It is 56 feet wide between the walls, which are 15 feet thick. There are 875,000 feet of timber in the structure below the water.

Valuable lead discoveries are reported at New Diggings, Wis.

Fish Commissioner Blackford, in co-operation with the Larchmont Club, has taken means effectually to prevent the dumping of garbage in Long Island Sound.

The French Chamber of Deputies last week voted decisively in favor of placing a tax on foreign grain. As shipments of corn and wheat from New York alone to French ports amounted to near 5,000,000 bushels during the 10 months ending April 30, Americans are interested.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Co., according to report, intend building large docks at South Chicago, to secure the lumber trade.

A circular has been sent to each of the iron molders' unions throughout the country asking them to consider the advisability of throwing the International Union of Iron Molders bodily into the Knights of Labor, and be prepared to vote on the subject at the next national convention. The Iron Molders' Union is about the oldest, and was formerly the strongest, labor organization in the country. Its membership numbers to-day over 100,000 men.

A reorganization of the National Board of Fire Underwriters is contemplated as a result of the anniversary meeting in this city, July 20.

The Indian Commissioners very sensibly suggest to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs that hardware would be a good substitute for rifles in attempting to civilize the frontier savages. In regard to Montana the report says: "Nothing is wanting except the necessary implements and the proper direction and encouragement to make the Crows entirely self-sustaining. But, while so deficient in implements and labor, the Crows are well supplied with the most costly and improved firearms. There is no game and these arms ought to be taken and exchanged for the tools of peace."

The Columbia River canneries number 92, and last season's shipments comprised 569,750 cans, while for the whole Pacific Coast the packs amounted to 835,700 cases. For the same year in California the fruit canneries alone packed 565,700 cases, making a lively demand for tin plates.

The natural-gas fever continues without abatement in Pennsylvania and Ohio, where lines of pipe are being laid down and wells drilled. A 17-mile line is being laid from Butler County to Allegheny on the surface of the ground. The Philadelphia Co. are drilling 12 wells in the Murraysville region. Another company are boring eight wells. Eastern syndicates have been formed to develop natural gas all through the Ohio Valley for manufacturing and domestic purposes.

A palace to cost \$250,000 exclusive of the ground occupied will be built in Washington City for the Chinese Legation. It will be after the fashion of a mandarin palace, surrounded by a wall, and occupy an entire block in the most elegant part of the city. Carpenters and masons from China will do the work.

The United States minister to Spain, Mr. Curry, acting under instructions from Secretary Bayard, has secured important concessions in favor of American shipping. Hereafter both domestic and foreign products imported into Cuba and Porto Rico in American bottoms will be admitted on the same terms as if imported in Spanish bottoms. All goods imported in American ships will pay by this royal order only third column duties.

The 30th of June was the date of departure from Bremen of the first steamer of a new subsidized line from Bremen to Australia.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad have been leased by the Newport News and Mississippi Valley Railroad, and will hereafter be operated as part of that line, running to New Orleans, and make connections with the Huntington system for the Pacific Coast. The Louisville Southern, a new road to compete with the Louisville and Nashville from Louisville south, refused an offer of \$200,000 from Springfield, Ky., to induce the new line to run through that place. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad quickly accepted the offer, and are under contract to speedily build a line of railway to that place, running regular trains, thus throwing out a feeder into a new field altogether.

Imports.

The following were the Imports of Hardware, Iron, Steel and Metals into the Port of New York for the week ending June 30, 1886:

Hardware.	Morton, Bliss & Co.
Baker Herman & Co.	Galv'd sheets, bbls., 305
Mdse., ca. 3	Sheets, bxs., 5
Barbour Bros. Co.	Spiegel, tons, 300
Mach'y, pkgs., 9	Pig, tons, 280
Brown W. & Co.	Perkins Clarence, Spiegel, tons, 401
Stoves, pkgs., 75	For from a German cks., 280
Cottrell C. B. & Son, Mach'y, ca., 2	Plock & Co.
Curley J. & Bro., Cases, 6	Rivet rods, coils, 139
Davies, Turner & Co.	Pim, Forward & Co.
Plates, ca. 5	Galv'd sheets, ca. 20
Doige Alfred, Mdse., ca. 12	Stetson Geo. W. & Co.
Drexel, Morgan & Co.	Pig, tons, 150
Arms, ca. 28	Ward Jas. E. & Co.
Field Alfred & Co.	Old scrap, tons, 450
Anvils, 10	Order.
Cutlery, ca. 12	Girders, 354
Cask, 1	Rods, bbls., 6074
Folsom H. & D.	Wire rods, bbls., 1467
Arms, ca. 13	Spiegel, tons, 160
Gordon Otto, Bells, 280	Old rails, pcms., 679
Grave Cutlery Co.	Pig tons, 388
Arms, ca. 16	Old iron, tons, 600
Grubb J. C. & Co.	
Arms, ca. 16	
Hartley & Graham, Arms, ca. 8	
Hubbell & Randall, Cases, 4	
Jennings A. G.	
Mach'y, pkgs., 8	
Kastor A.	
Case, 1	
McClay & Sanders, Cases, 2	
Moore's Son, J. P.	
Mdse., ca. 7	
Guns, ca. 12	
Pim, Forward & Co.	
Buckets, pkgs., 49	
Shovelings, Datsy & Gales, Arms, ca. 6	
Schutte W. & Co.	
Cases, 8	
She don Geo. W. & Co.	
Cases, 16	
Smith A. & Sons, Mach'y, ca. 30	
Glavin M. A.	
Mach'y, pkgs., 2	
Stoddard, Levering & Co.	
Mach'y, ca. 35	
Sturges Appleton, Mach'y, ca. 7	
Teff, Weller & Co.	
Cases, 3	
Vandertorn W. H.	
Arms, ca. 27	
Vom Cleave & Co.	
Mdse., ca. 15	
Wielbusch & Hilger, Arms, ca. 14	
Anvils, 415	
Witte John G. & Bro.	
Needles, case, 1	
Guns, ca. 20	
Cases, 10	
Zimmerman Henry, Tools, ca. 2	
Alexandre F. & Sons, Tubes, 30	
Broecker & Evans, Tin plates, bxs., 176	
Barling Bros. & Co.	
Bars, 14,083	
Bundles, 340	
all rods, coils, 589	
Brown Bros. & Co.	
Coils, 857	
Cary & Moen, Rods, cks., 13	
Rods, bbls., 78	
Coddington T. B. & Co.	
Sheets, bxs., 89	
Sheets, bbls., 574	
Bars, 23	
Crocker Bros.	
Pig, tons, 300	
Spiegel, lot, 1	
Spiegel, tons, 1116 1/2	
Davies, Turner & Co.	
Case, 1	
Cask, 1	
Pkgs., 3	
Kessler & Co.	
Scrap, lot, 1	
Lill-nberg N.	
Bars, 3838	
Pkgs., 15	
Mickel's Oscar, Wire, cks., 11	

The imports of Cutlery, Hardware and Metals at this port for the week ending June 25 were as follows:

	Quantity.	Value.
Anvils.....	194	\$1,385
Brass goods.....	36	1,430
Bronzes.....	19	1,874
Chain and anchors.....	25	1,218
Clocks.....	171	8,564
Copper.....	34	332
Cutlery.....	165	42,420
Dutch metal.....	1	106
Guns.....	104	18,553
Hardware.....	9	246
Iron, pig, tons.....	855	9,105
Iron, sheet, tons.....	31	1,444
Iron, spiegel, tons.....	1,044	31,062
Iron ore, tons.....	2,882	4,352
Iron, tubes.....	172	104
Iron, other, tons.....	1,476	40,852
Lead, pigs.....	2,191	8,067
Machinery.....	41	12,390
Metal goods.....	250	35,111
Nails.....	1	4
Needles.....	15	5,425
Nickel.....	11	4,579
Old metal.....	1	396
Platina.....	1	568
Plated ware.....	16	532
Pms.....	17	1,733
Regulus antimony.....	75	3,894
Saddlery.....	1	2,589
Steel.....	41,618	44,073
Tin, bxs.....	48,559	186,115
Tin, 1,000 slabs; 112,407 lb.....	213	23,597
Wire.....	93,416	3,648
Zinc.....	650	3,608
Zinc oxide.....		5,412

The London Iron Trade Exchange reports that three prominent members of the South Shaffordshire iron trade will shortly sail for Alabama to inspect some extensive mineral properties on behalf of a company which is being formed for the purpose of developing the estates. The gentlemen referred to are Mr. Joseph H. Pearson, of Hanaworth, the owner of Netherton and Windmill End furnaces, near Dudley; Mr. Benjamin Round, of Hange Furnaces, Trivale, and Mr. Samuel Dickinson, of Wolverhampton, the local agent of the Barrow Steel Co. Mr. Pearson is intimately acquainted with both the manufacturing and commercial sides of the trade, and both he and Mr. Round are colliery proprietors as well as ironmasters. Mr. Round is one of the most thoroughly practical, yet scientific, iron smelters in the Black Country, and Mr. Samuel Dickinson's long experience in the commercial branch of the trade ought to prove valuable when considering the nature and extent of the markets for Alabama pig iron.

Within little more than a year all the locomotives on the St. Paul and Duluth road (43) have been changed from wood burners to coal burners, though it is almost a continuous forest along the road.

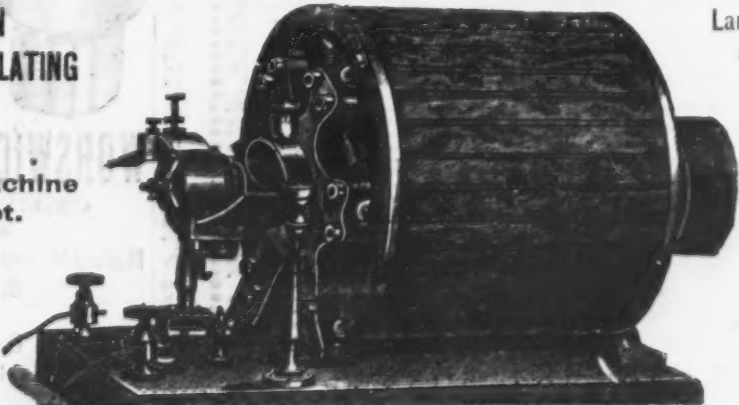
\$10 %
 \$10 %
 \$40 %
 \$40 %
 \$30 %
 \$7.00
 \$8.50
 \$8.50
 \$10.00
 .25
 \$15 %
 \$20 %
 \$25 %

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MANUFACTURING.

Iron and Steel.

The firm of Boulton, Brown & Co., who are building the new steel works at Duquesne, 12 miles from Pittsburgh on the P., V. and C. R. R., were merged last week into a company chartered under the act of 1874. The new concern will be called the Duquesne Steel Works. The officers elected are George Boulton, president; Robert B. Brown, vice-president, and W. H. Alldred, secretary and treasurer. All the excavations for the new plant have been made, and work on the foundations has been commenced. Over a mile of standard-gauge track is being constructed. The location of the works has started a new town, which has been named Duquesne.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bethlehem Iron Co., of Bethlehem, Pa., was held on the 22d ult. The Board of Managers presented a report of the company's business for the year. The following were re-elected directors: Alfred Hunt, Wm. W. Thurston, Jos. Wharton, F. S. Wilbur, R. bert H. Sayre, John Knecht and Robert P. Lunderman. The incoming Board of Directors was authorized to increase the indebtedness by placing a mortgage on the works for \$1,500,000. The stock vote was the fullest cast at any meeting of the company. The Board of Directors elected the following officers: President, Alfred Hunt; vice-president, Wm. W. Thurston; general manager, Robert H. Sayre; chief engineer and general superintendent, John Fritz; secretary, A. S. Schropp; treasurer, C. O. Brunner.

Part of the machinery in the newly-completed sheet mill of the Sharon Iron Co.'s plant, at Sharon, Pa., was put in operation last week and worked perfectly. The test was merely an experiment, but the new department is to be put in operation this summer. The improvements will cost about \$50,000.

The courts have approved the lease of the plant of the Himrod Furnace Co., of Youngstown, Ohio, to the Brier Hill Iron and Coal Co., of that place. Under the terms of the lease, which expires December 31 of the present year, the lessees are to pay a rental of 50 cents per ton for all pig iron produced, and stipulates that in any event the amount paid must not be less than \$5400. At present but one stack is in blast, and it is producing over 100 tons per day.

Some large additions are being made to the National Tube Works, at McKeesport, Pa., which will increase the capacity about 40 per cent. Ground has been broken for the erection of 28 puddling furnaces in the rolling mill, which now contains 18 single and 15 double furnaces. The new lap-welding furnaces are almost completed and will be put in operation in a short time. The new butt mill is well under way, and the furnaces have been commenced. The building is assuming prodigious proportions, and when finished will be one of the largest departments of the mill. A new lap-weld furnace will be placed in the present butt mill. A second story is being built at the threading department, and it will almost double the capacity. In all the other departments extensions are being rapidly made.

The North Chicago Rolling Mill Co., at Bay View, Wis., have signed the scale as adopted by the conference committees at Pittsburgh.

The Youngstown Steel Co. erected a plant at Youngstown, Ohio, three years ago for the purpose of making open-hearth steel. By reason of a dull market the plant ran but a short time and has since been idle. Recently the company decided on making steel ingots, and after making the necessary changes the gas was lighted on the 24th ult. The daily production will be 20 tons, and the ingots, which will weigh nearly 1 ton, will be shipped to the Spang Steel Co., of Pittsburgh, for rolling. Should the business prove sufficiently remunerative a plant will be erected by the company for rolling the ingots.

The Apollo Iron and Steel Co., of Apollo, Pa., were chartered on the 21st ult. with a capital stock of \$300,000. This company have been in operation for several years, and in order to make a limited corporation it was necessary to obtain a new charter.

McLanahan & Stone, Hollidaysburg, Pa., have just completed a 30-inch nail-plate train, with engine and 25-ton fly-wheel, for the Portage Iron Co., Limited, of Duncansville, Pa.

The Roane Iron Co., of Chattanooga, are about to put up a 4-ton converter, and propose to resume work on the rail mill.

The furnace of the Lynchburg Iron Co., Lynchburg, Va., went out of blast on the 15th ult., after a campaign started on September 5, 1885. During that time there were stoppages for repairs and by floods aggregating 11 days. The furnace produced 11,292 tons, an average of 40½ tons per day. It made 207 tons of No. 1, 5111 tons of No. 2, 3078 tons of No. 3, and 1026 tons of mottled and white iron, the percentage of grades being therefore 18.39 No. 1, 45.27 No. 2, 27.36 No. 3, and 8.98 mottled and white.

The furnace of the Vigo Iron Co., Terre Haute, Ind., will probably blow out in two weeks.

The Cleveland Rolling Mill Co. are running full in all departments, the new rod mill and the hoop mill having resumed within the past few days. The steel works are running the best in their history, and the rail mill is turning out its full capacity.

The Crane Iron Co., at Catsaqua, Pa., are fitting No. 5 Furnace with one of the improved Crane Brothers steam hoists, similar to Nos. 1 and 3. The hoist removed was propelled by water, and throughout the winter the platforms were made dangerous with ice, but the new arrangement is very much superior, and experience with two in use for several years determined the adoption at all the furnaces.

Machinery.

An important decision concerning the Howe Sewing Machine Co., Bridgeport,

Conn., was rendered by Judge Beardsley, of the Superior Court, recently. The suit was brought to foreclose a mortgage for \$280,000 given by the company to secure bonds issued. Judge Beardsley's decree decided that the amount of the mortgage, with interests and costs, must be paid on or before Monday, June 21, in default of which all the property secured by said mortgages shall be sold at public auction on July 24. James Staples was appointed commissioner to make the sale. The decree makes numerous provisions as to the use to which the money obtained by the sale shall be put.

The Mason Machine Works, Taunton, Mass., have posted the following notice: "We will not close our works, but shall continue to run, whatever the inconvenience or loss may be. We shall fill the vacancies in our working force soon as possible, and the new men who are hired now will not be discharged to make room for any who have left us who may want to return."

The Providence Steam Engine Co., of Providence, R. I., are building and erecting improved Greene engines for the following establishments: Valley Worsted Mills, Horace A. Kimball and Michael Fitzgerald & Co., Providence; Foyd Cranska, Moosup, Conn.; Reading Cotton Mills, Reading, Pa.; J. Morton Browne & Co., Norristown, Pa.; Hoyle, Harrison & Kaye, Stead & Miller and Blood & Co., Philadelphia; C. E. Meding, Mauch Chunk, Pa. They have just put in operation a 700-horse-power engine at the Brooklyn Sugar Refining Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Portland Locomotive Co., of Portland, Me., have just delivered the first of four locomotives building at their works for the Maine Central Railroad. The locomotive weighs 45 tons, and is designed for hauling passenger trains. The cylinders are 17 x 24, and the driving-wheels 5 feet 8 inches in diameter.

The Union Switch and Signal Co., of Pittsburgh, are putting their interlocking switches and signals in for the Baltimore and Potomac, the Philadelphia and Erie and the West Penn roads.

Messrs. Charles and James Mulholland, who purchased the buildings and machinery last year of the Vicksburg (Miss.) Mfg. Co., after having an expert examine the timber adjacent to that city, are so well satisfied with his report that they have ordered \$6000 worth of the most improved machinery for manufacturing spokes, wheels, hubs and handles from hardwood.

At the recent tile ditching machine contest at Champaign, Ill., five machines entered for the contest, but only three put in an appearance. Chandler & Taylor, Indianapolis, Ind., exhibited a machine which was awarded the gold medal. The digging part consists of an endless chain or succession of U-shaped buckets, running over an arm, the corner end of which runs upon the bottom of the finished ditch, the upper end being carried upon a pair of wheels which are hitched behind an ordinary portable engine. The machine showed a capacity of 125 rods per 10 hours.

The H. A. Ramsay Engineering Works, Baltimore, are adding an iron foundry to their works.

P. Blaisdell & Co., Worcester, Mass., are running their shop with 85 men full time. They make a specialty of lathes and drill presses, which have recently been improved.

The Roanoke (Va.) Machine Works are running continuously night and day. Two gangs of men are employed. They build locomotives and cars and do repairs. Several hundred hands are employed.

Cramp & Son, Philadelphia, Pa., are building a new iron ferry-boat, 207 feet long, with engine 50 inches diameter, 10 feet stroke; a new steamer for the Morgan Line; repairing the English steamer Eros, which went ashore last April, the repairs estimated to cost \$50,000. The collier Hercules is undergoing a thorough overhauling on the railway. They are also building three new steamers for the Southern Pacific and Wm. P. Clyde & Co.

The Risdon Iron Works, San Francisco, are building the large engines and boilers for the new cable railroad at Oakland, Cal. The boilers used will be of the Heine pattern.

The Webster, Camp & Lane Machine Co., Akron, Ohio, now have an order in hand for nine standard hoists for the Chicago Steel Works. In addition to this they have an order for a large hoist for a coal-mining company in Tennessee and two for iron mines in the Lake Superior region.

Lodge, Davis & Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, have increased their capacity one third. They are now operating 30 lathes, with a corresponding number of planers, milling machines, drills, &c. They are running to their full capacity on advance orders.

The Lehigh Valley shops at Hazleton, Pa., have completed a heavy passenger engine with 24-inch cylinders and 68 inch drivers. The boiler is 58 inches diameter of barrel. This engine is intended to work heavy passenger trains over the mountain division.

The Norfolk and Western Railroad will build a 125,000-bushel grain elevator at Norfolk, Va.

Messrs. Riehl Brothers, of Philadelphia, Pa., are making for the United States Government, for Mare Island Navy Yard, one of their improved testing machines. It is similar to the one lately selected for Harvard College. Their recent orders are for testing machines for Barnum, Richardson & Co., Wisconsin Construction Co., Pomeroy & Sons; Everett Mills, Lawrence, Mass.; city of Pittsburgh, city of Cleveland; Cincinnati Telephone Co.; improved rope twister for new pipe works, New Philadelphia, Ohio; National Pipe Foundry Co., Scottsdale, Pa.; the Jackson and Woodin Mfg. Co.; also scales for Ohio Iron Co., Oxford Iron and Nail Co., Thomas Iron Co.; Noble Brothers, Anniston, Ala.; Tipton Coal Co., Clearfield Consolidation Coal Co.; coal cutting machinery for Saltburg Coal

Co.; steel straightener for Standard Steel Carting Co. In addition to the above a large number of scales of smaller sizes, also trucks, &c., have been ordered and delivered, and the prospects for orders ahead look more favorable than for two years back.

The Clayton Air Compressor Works, of Brooklyn, N. Y., have just received an order for a large Duplex air compressor. The steam cylinders are each 12 inches diameter, stroke 26 inches and air cylinders 8 inches diameter. This machine is capable of taking in 500 feet of gas per minute. It will take about eight weeks to complete the order. The machine will be set up and put in running order at the works, and satisfactorily tested before shipment. It will go to Sydney, Australia, through the commission house of W. H. Crossman & Bro., of New York City, it being the second of this class of machines ordered by this firm for the same parties. It is only recently that our American manufacturers have been able to compete with the English makers for this class of heavy machinery.

Hardware.

Messrs. B. F. Avery & Sons, of Louisville, Ky., resumed operations on Monday, the 21st ult., running full time and force in all branches. The season has begun six weeks earlier than usual, and promises to be one of unusual activity and volume. Messrs. Thos. Meikle & Co. have also begun work in their factory, giving employment to their usual force of hands.

The Wright Wire Cloth Co., successors to Palmer Wire Goods Co., Palmer, Mass., have refitted the buildings formerly occupied by the latter concern, and have increased their facilities by the addition of new machinery. The works are running on wire poultry netting principally, which is marketed through the company's agents, Knapp & Hague, 52 Fulton street, New York.

C. Rogers & Bros., Meriden, Conn., are about to put in their factory two new 90 horse-power boilers, an enlargement of their facilities which is required by the satisfactory condition of their trade.

The Jeffords Axe Co., manufacturers of axes and edge tools generally, picks, mattocks and grub hoes, Jamestown, N. Y., were formerly called the C. L. Jeffords Co., and were run under this name for 35 years. The past year the company were reorganized. The works are reported to be running full time.

Miscellaneous.

A convention of harness manufacturers, under the presidency of George Peters, was held in the Monongahela House, Pittsburgh, last week. A national organization was formed and the following permanent officers elected: President, Owen C. Gothright, Louisville; secretary and treasurer, N. J. Demarest, Newark, N. J.; Executive Committee, W. L. Tompkins, Newark; George Emery, Concord, N. H.; Benj. Bowin, Hartford, Conn., and E. F. Beck, Newark.

The Sumner Glass Co., who have for two years operated the prescription ware glass house at Sumner Station, near Sharpsburg, Pa., have bought a factory at Steubenville with a 10-pot furnace, the lease of the Sumner factory expiring on June 30. The company is a co-operative one composed of glass blowers who struck at Libby Brothers' Sharpsburg factory some years ago. Co-operative factories were at the same time started at Bellaire, Butler and Parkersburg.

The Natural Gas Light Co., lately chartered as an illuminating gas company for the city of Allegheny, are getting ready for work, and will in a few weeks increase their capital stock to \$300,000 preparatory to piping Allegheny City and supplying the consumers of that city with illuminating gas at \$1 per 1000 feet.

The Ohio Gas Fuel Co. expect to be furnishing the rolling mills of Youngstown, Ohio, with natural gas by August 1. Several mills have under consideration the question of a shut down during July, in order to make the necessary attachments for natural gas.

Capitalists in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and Pittsburgh and Western Railroad have organized a company to erect a foot bridge across the Allegheny River from the foot of Thirtieth street, Pittsburgh, to Bridge street, in the Eighth Ward, Allegheny. Among the subscribers to certificates of incorporation are James Callery, C. S. Wright, Thomas M. King, John McCleave and J. V. Patton. The bridge will be operated in connection with an incline plane extending to the top of Troy Hill, thus bringing a large and important section of Allegheny City within easy reach of Pittsburgh.

Ex-United States Senator Hill, of Colorado, and Prof. Richard Pearce, of England, were in Pittsburgh last week, looking for a site for the establishment of a metal-refining manufactory. Senator Hill is at the head of the largest metal-refining works in the United States. These are situated at Denver, but that point is too far west to be accessible to the rich silver ores of Mexico, Arizona and New Mexico. The gentlemen were much struck with the facilities offered by natural gas, but have not decided as yet upon a location.

The following table from the Marquette (Mich.) Mining Journal exhibits in gross tons the total lake shipments of iron ore from the mines of the Marquette and Menominee ranges for the current season up to and including Wednesday, the 23d ult., together with the shipments from the same ports for the corresponding period of last year:

Name of port.	1885.	1886.
Marquette.....	350,737	196,647
Menominee.....	487,096	225,192
L'Anse.....	15,260	8,694
St. Ignace.....	15,260	23,843
Total.....	668,313	554,376

The gain over the lake shipments from the mines of the two ranges named for the corresponding period of 1885 is 138,967 gross tons. The shipments from the Gogebic mines for this season to date aggregate 139,236 gross tons. The output of the Vermilion mines being about the same as for the corresponding portion of last year, adding the gain from the Marquette and Menominee

mines to the amount sent forward from those of the Gogebic region gives the total gain in the quantity of Lake Superior ore shipped by lake this season over that of 1885. The amount is 268,203 gross tons.

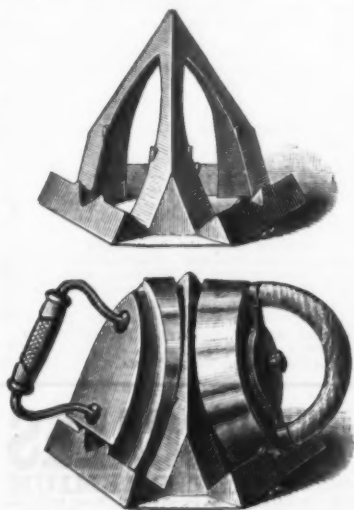
The average shipments from the Connellsville coke region last week were 975 cars, as against 960 two weeks ago. Of these the syndicate ships 730 and the outside producers 245 cars. These are distributed as follows: West of Pittsburgh, 535 cars; east of Connellsville, 210 cars; Pittsburgh and rivers, 230 cars. The figures show an increase of 55 cars west and a decrease of 40 cars east.

An order for 250 cars for the Minneapolis and Pacific Railway has been secured by the Terre Haute Car and Mfg. Co., of Terre Haute, Ind.

Hardware Novelties.

Dome Sadiron Heater.

The Shepard Hardware Co., of Buffalo, N. Y., are introducing a sadiron heater for use on gasoline and oil stoves, which has been named the Dome, and which is very clearly shown in the two engravings presented herewith. It is arranged in such a manner that three irons may be kept in place over the flame instead of one, with the advantage of not heating the handles nearly so much as in the old way. The flame from the gasoline or oil stove is supposed to be directly in the center of the cone, and the little lugs on the side of the



The Dome Sadiron Heater.

panels of the sad heater prevent the irons from closing up the panels entirely, or in other words keep them just far enough away to leave sufficient opening for draft. The heater will, it is claimed, heat three irons as fast as and more evenly than two irons can be heated when set down on the flame, while the handles are not nearly as much heated as in the old way. The heater is adapted for use with either the common form of sadiron or some of the improved varieties. It is stated in the manufacturers' circular that one heater will heat irons enough for two rapid ironers.

Payson's Fish Stringer.

The accompanying illustration clearly represents the construction of this article, the purpose of which is indicated by the name. The size of the stringer is 2 feet 6 inches long by 4 inches wide, and the weight is 12 ounces. The head of the stringer, to which the rope is attached, is made of cast iron or brass, and is provided with two double latch-guards for receiving and hold-



Fish Stringer.

ing safely the upper ends of the stringing wires, and is also so formed as to permit the fastening of a connecting-rod, and is furnished with holes, as indicated, through which the rope passes. The stringer-rod, of ½-inch steel or brass spring wire, is passed through an eye in the lower end of the connecting-rod, and is then bent upward, and the two ends sprung into the scroll-shaped latch-guards in the head, as shown in the cut. The outward pressure of the spring wire in connection with the latch-guard holds the two ends of the stringers in place, so that they are not liable to be unfastened by any accidental blow or the struggles of the fish, but at the same time are easily detached and replaced by the hand in stringing the fish. The stringer is intended to be secured to the side of the boat by means of the rope, and, when desired, by unfastening and reversing the wires, the fish can easily be removed.

Chandler's Chamferer.

The cut shows a common draw-knife, with a chamfer gauge applied, which Chas. A. Strelinger & Co., of Detroit, Mich., are introducing to the trade. The chamfer gauge consists of a casting that slips over the blade and is held by a thumb-screw at the top. Two of these castings are employed, one of which is slipped against either face of the angle to be chamfered. The depth of



Chandler's Chamferer.

the chamfer, accordingly, is regulated by the space apart at which these gauges are set. The gauges are furnished handsomely nickel-plated and are of a size to fit ordinary draw-knives. For many purposes where chamfering is wanted at short notice, and where it can be better done by a draw-knife than any other tool, these gauges would seem to answer a very desirable purpose. At the same time they admit of work being done by a draw-knife in competition with other means for accomplishing the same thing.

The Little Giant Ice-Grip.

From the accompanying illustration of this article, which is put on the market by the Little Giant Ice-Grip Co., 531 Commerce street, Philadelphia, Pa., its construction, something on the principle of the Harpoon bay fork, will be readily understood. The fluted ends are to be pressed into the ice, and by a backward and forward motion the point is to be buried ¾ inch or more into the ice. Then with the thumb and finger of the other hand the ends of the blade are to be pressed together, thus forcing the prongs of the grip into the body of the ice, which can then be readily lifted and disposed of as desired. To release the ice it is necessary to press the grip to the full extent



The Little Giant Ice-Grip.

back into the opening already made, which closes the prongs, permitting the grip to be removed. This tool, the full length of which is about 5½ inches, is especially intended for family use, and in referring to its advantages the point is made that by means of it any sized piece of ice can be picked up by simply gripping it securely on the top side only, thus enabling the ice to be lowered into the cellar or refrigerator without any danger of injuring the receptacle. They are described as made of the best quality steel, hand forged, properly tempered, having an enameled finished handle and weighing 5 ounces each.

A New Torpedo-Boat.—It is a remarkable fact that the Japanese were the first to introduce seagoing torpedo-boats, the English builders Messrs. Yarrow & Co., of Poplar, having eight years ago constructed a number of such craft for the Japanese Government. The same Government have just initiated a new departure by adopting before any other power torpedo boats of an armored type, the first of which has just been completed by Messrs. Yarrow. It measures 166 feet in length and 19 feet in beam, and is consequently the largest boat of the kind which has yet been built. It will be propelled by twin screws and driven by engines working up to 1400 horse-power. The principal feature of novelty, however, is that all the vulnerable portions of the vessel, including the machinery, &c., are protected by 1-inch steel armor, which may be considered as an almost perfect defense against machine gun fire, having in view the distance at which a torpedo-boat attacks and the acute angle of fire at which it would be hit. The vessel is being shipped in pieces and will be put together in Japan, and if the trials come up to expectations there is no doubt that this type of torpedo-boat will find favor with many Governments, for not only is good protection obtained, but the vessel, because of its large size, offers greater and more comfortable accommodation for the officers and crew, and is in a special sense deserving to be classed as seagoing. The armament, which has been constructed in France, consists of two torpedo guns in the bow, and the same number of guns placed near the stern and fitted on a revolving turn-table, so as to enable them to be discharged at any angle. The speed expected to be realized is between 19 and 20 knots an hour.

Iron vs. Steel for Blacksmiths' Supplies.

The following interesting letter from Messrs. Hull & Rogers, of Danbury, Conn., who are very large dealers in blacksmiths' supplies, will be found valuable as indicating what their experience has been in the matter of the displacement of iron by steel. They say:

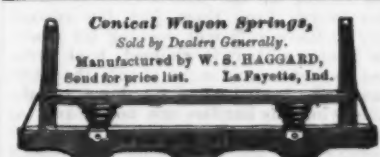
We have been surprised at the slowness of the change. When steel dropped in price to the level of iron we expected to see it supplant the latter very largely and rapidly for general purposes. We put in a full line of steel for wagon and carriage tires, horse and ox shoes, &c., and more particularly of carriage and wagon axles and nails, fully expecting to gradually decrease our purchases of the iron, and finally—especially in case of axles and nails—to drop them altogether and sell nothing but steel. For a while, owing partly to the novelty of the thing and partly to the selling quality of the word "steel," the commodity had a large sale. Presently the "smiths" complained of the hard work, and began to go back to iron for horse and ox shoes, as being much more easily worked and as less likely to split out at the creases—until now we find ourselves again buying and selling 10 tons of horse and ox shoe iron to 1 ton of steel for this purpose. For tires the result has been different, especially in light sizes. The light steel tire has evidently come to stay, and the sale of iron for this purpose, say 1 x 1/4 inch and under, has almost entirely ceased. Owing to trouble in bending and welding the heavier sizes in steel, iron is still the favorite. It would seem as if steel would be far preferable to iron for axles, owing to the finer fiber (taking higher finish) as well as its greater tensile strength; but for some reason unexplained, except by some as due to trouble in welding, many customers refuse to take it in place of iron, and our experience has been somewhat the same as with shoe shapes, we finding sale of steel axles rather on the decrease than otherwise. The result of it all is that we have to keep a double stock, complete in all sizes and shapes, and the question of which is the fittest for general purposes is still undecided. Our experience with cut nails made of steel has been very unfavorable. The heads flew off and nails broke in driving. We sold out at a discount, and will not bother with them further unless their popularity increases.

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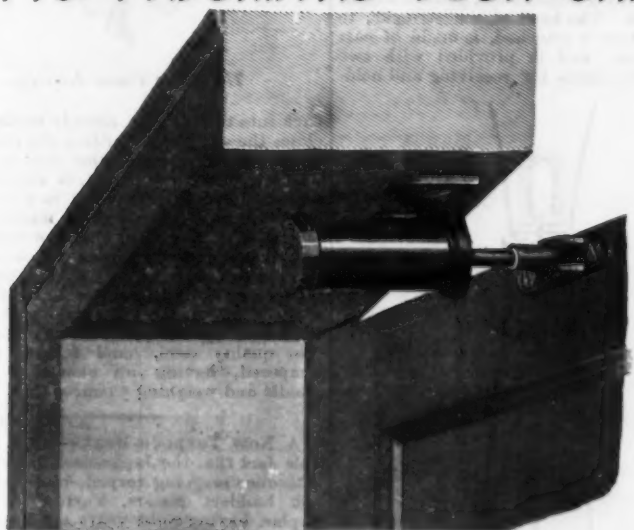
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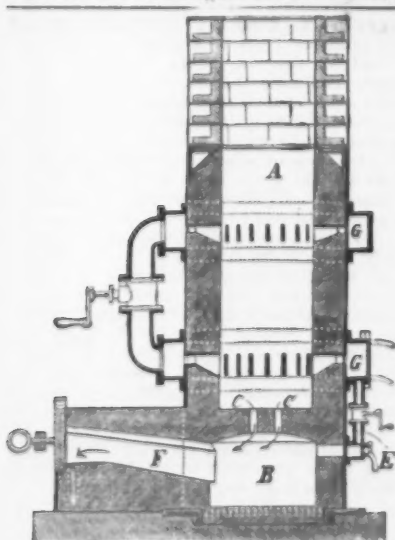
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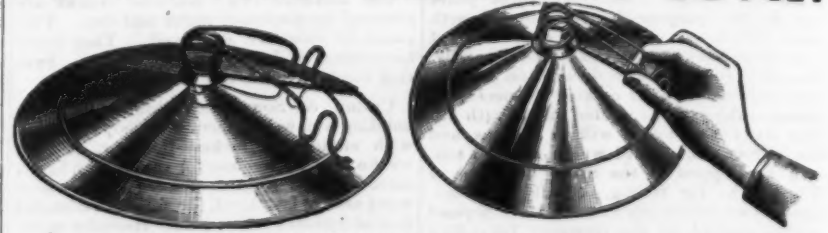
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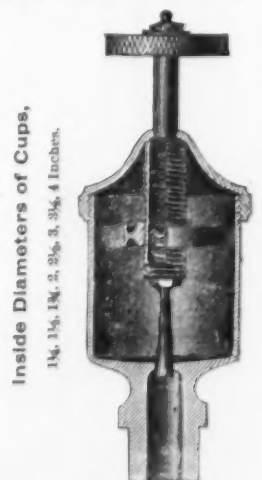
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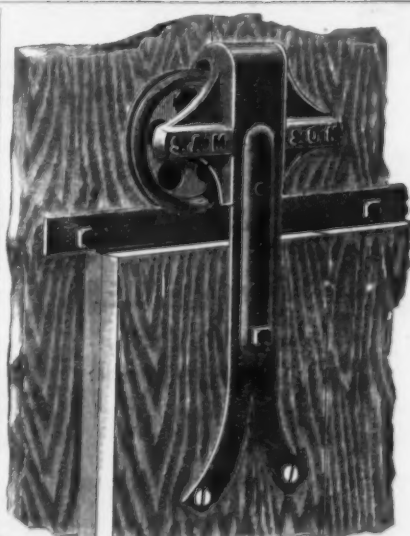
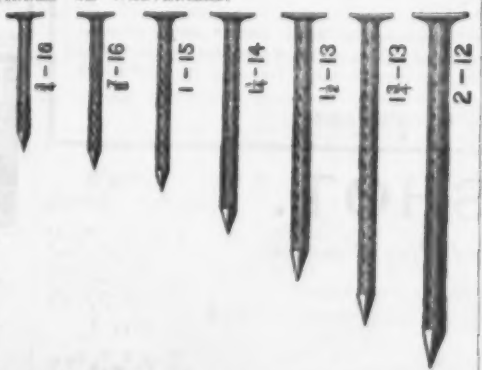


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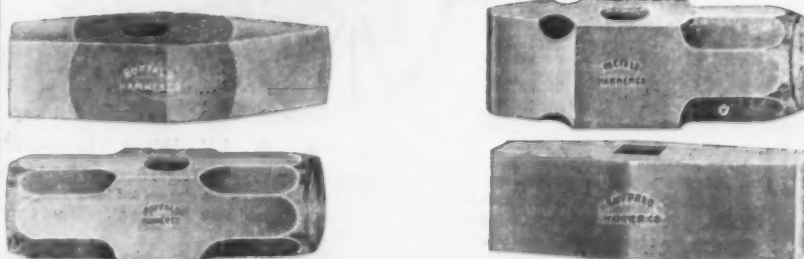
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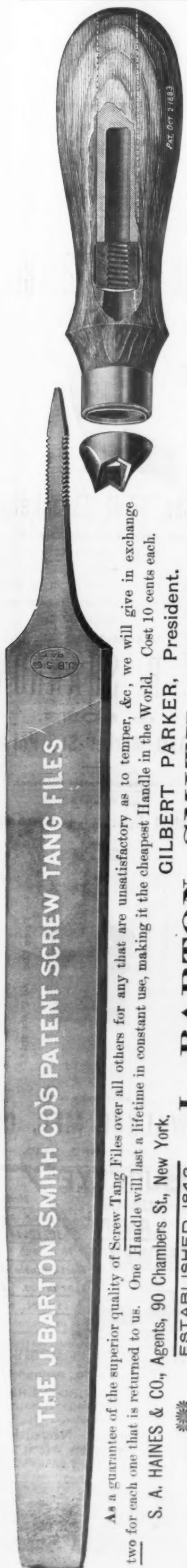
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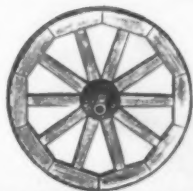
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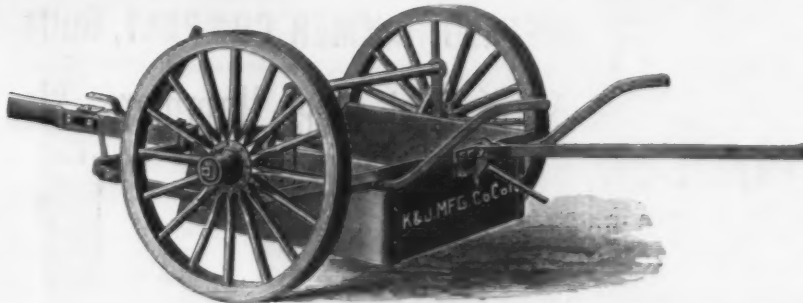
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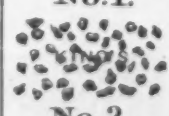
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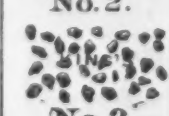
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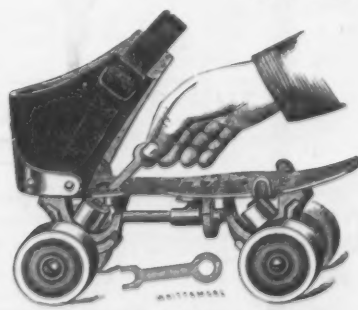
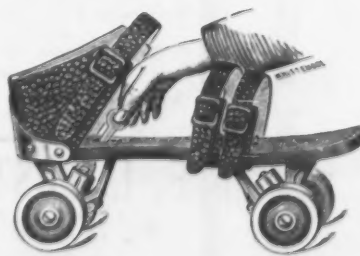
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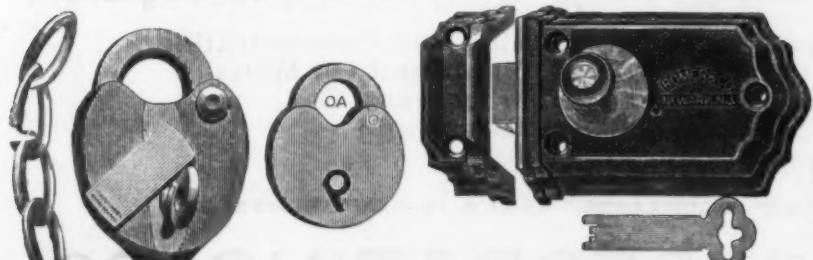
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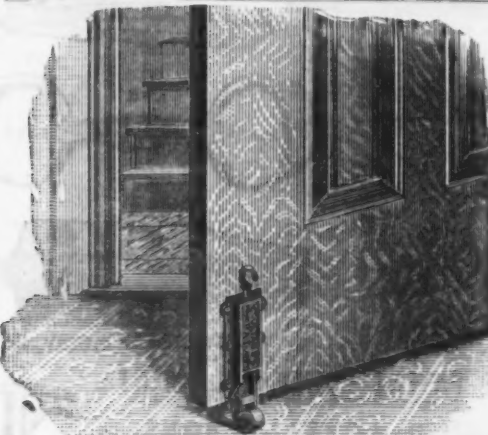


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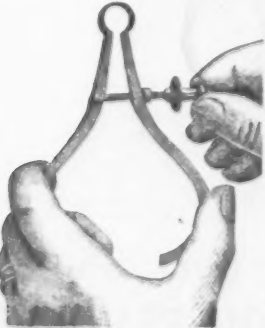
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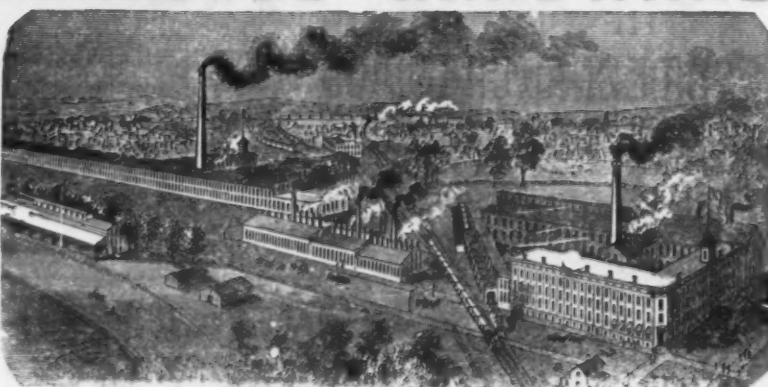
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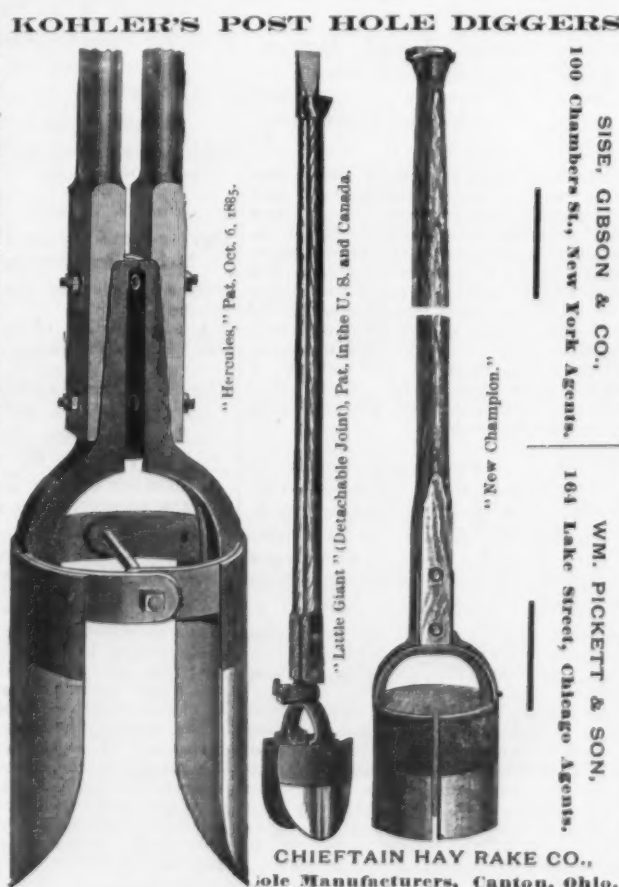
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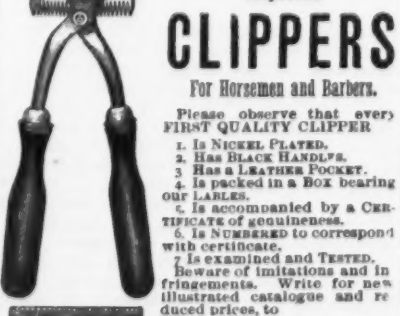


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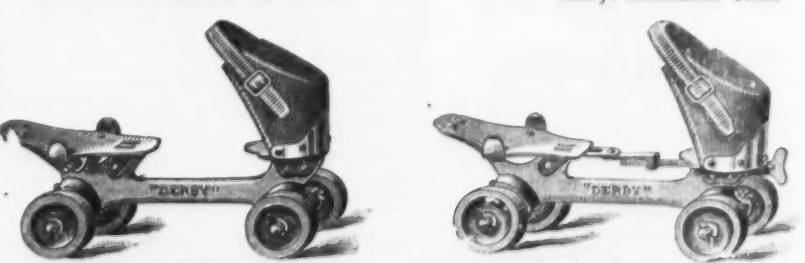


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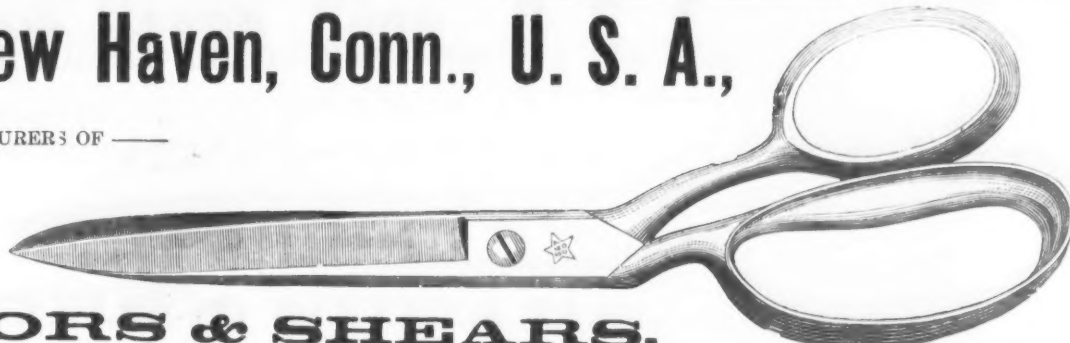
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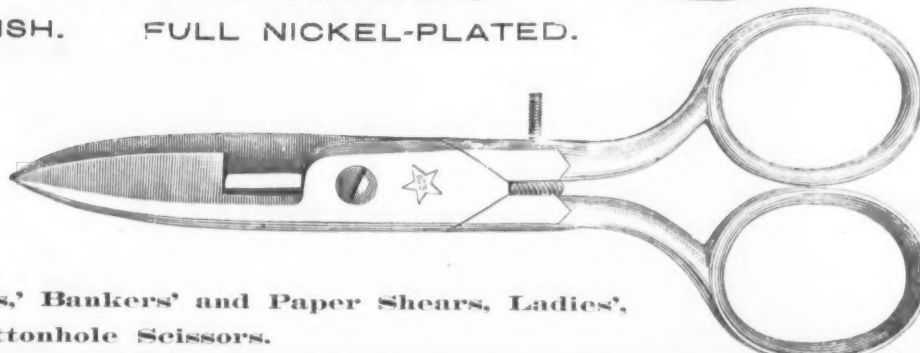
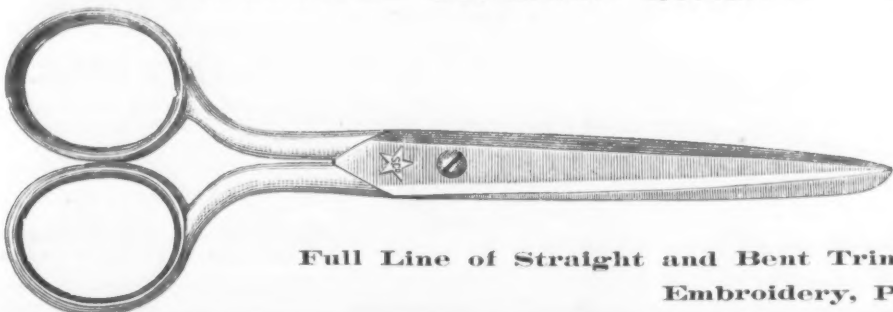
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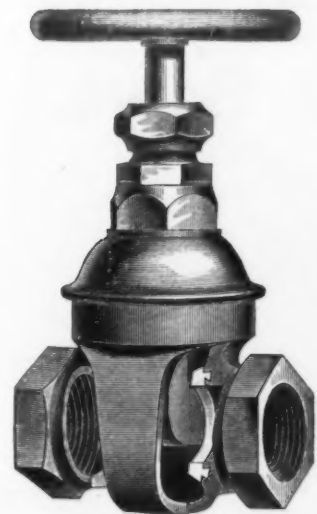
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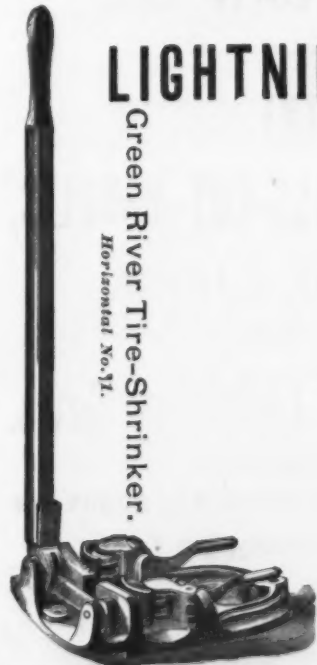
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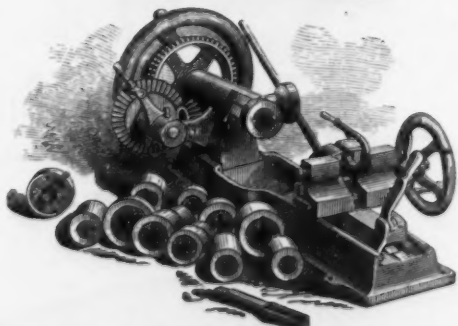
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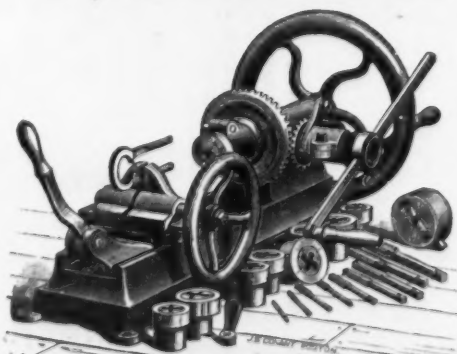
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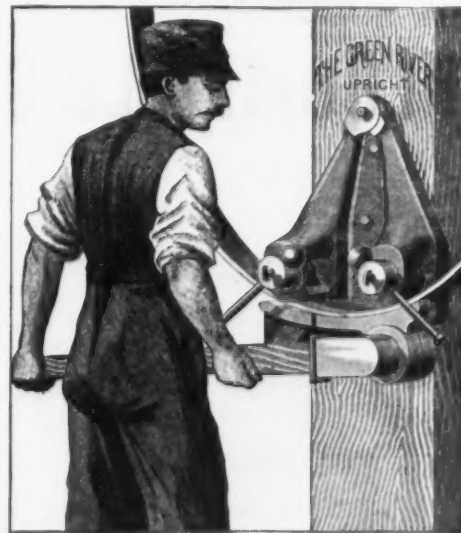
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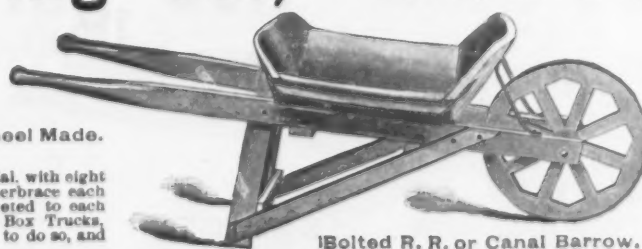
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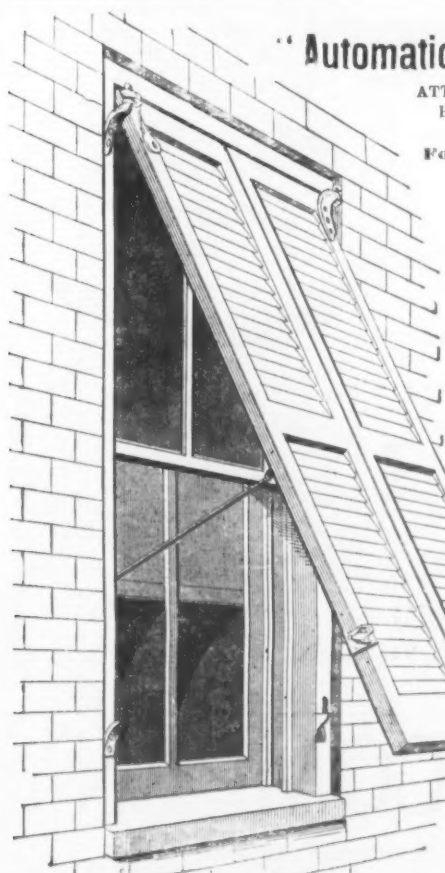
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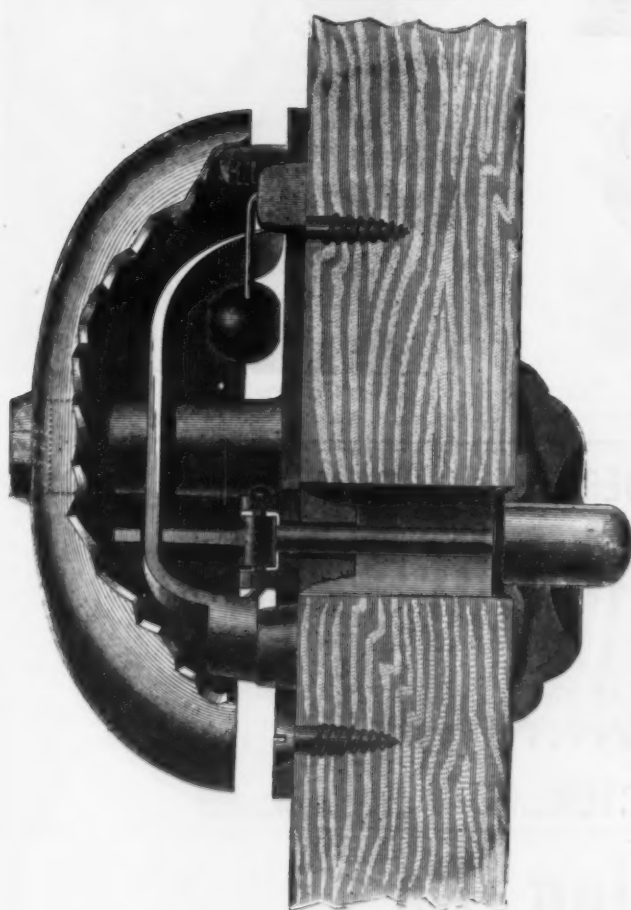
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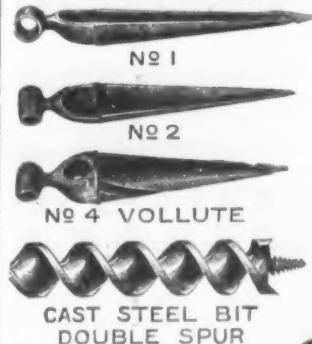
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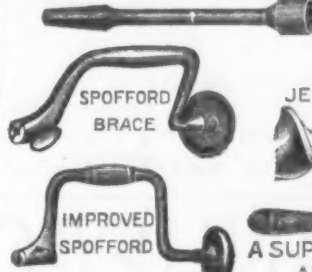
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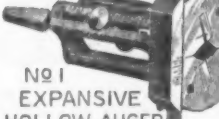


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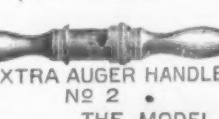
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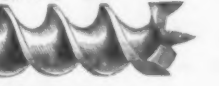


NO 1 EXPANSIVE
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EXTRA AUGER HANDLE
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THE MODEL EXPANSIVE BIT



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CONSTRUCTED UPON AN ENTIRELY
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ORDER. STRONG, DURABLE AND CHEAP



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Expansive Hollow Auger,
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3/4 to 4 inch.

Hollow Augers,
All kinds.

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Of all Kinds and Best Quality.

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These goods are carefully manufactured
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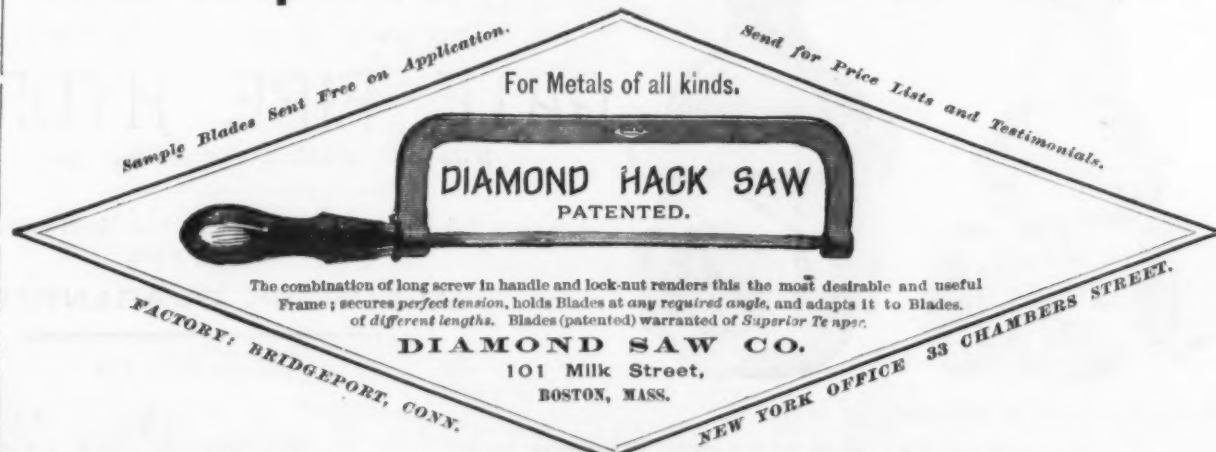
NEW HAVEN

TOOL HOLDER.

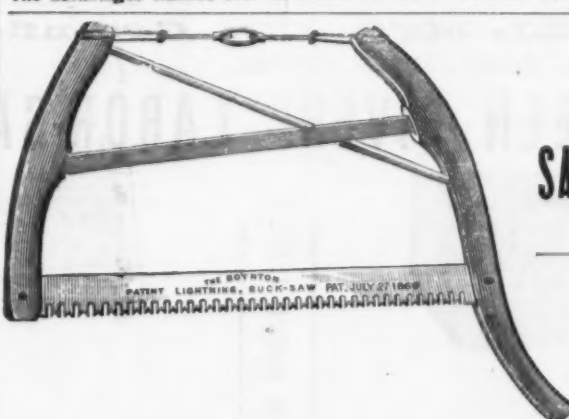
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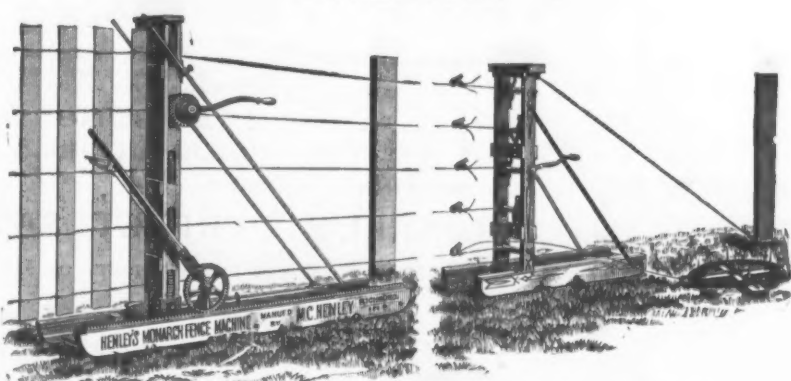
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The only practical machine in use which makes the Fence in the field whenever wanted. It has no equal, and makes the best, strongest and most durable Fence for general use, and especially for farm and stock purposes. Weaves any length of picket, slat or board, and any size wire can be used. The Fence made by this machine is far superior



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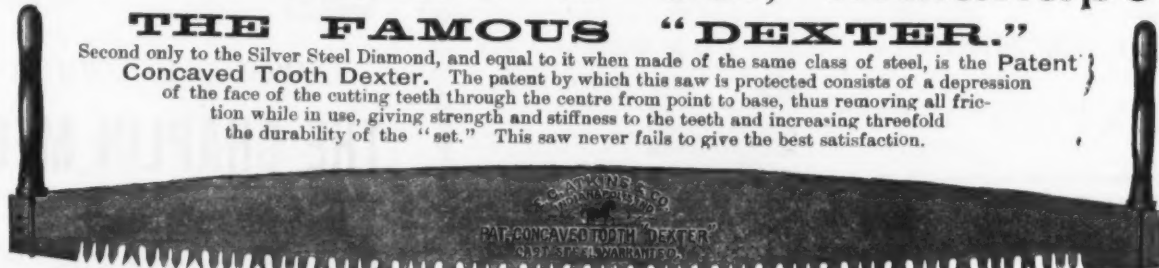
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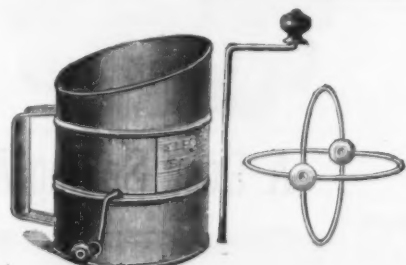
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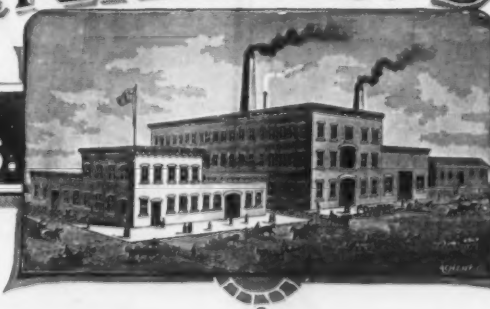
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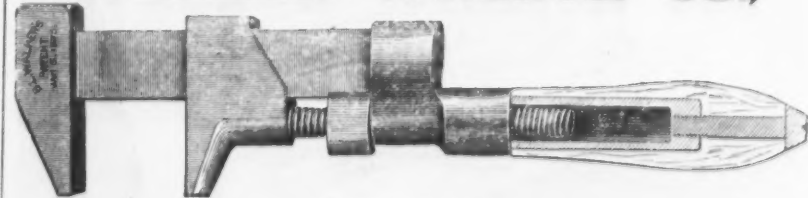
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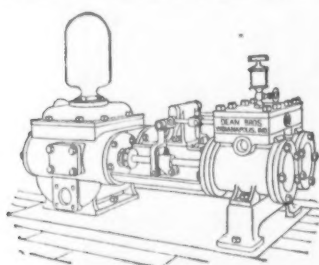
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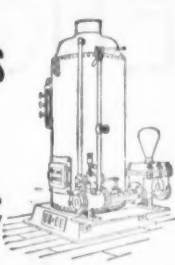
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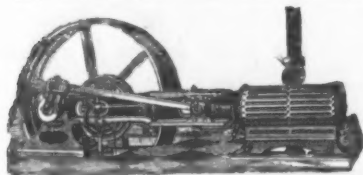
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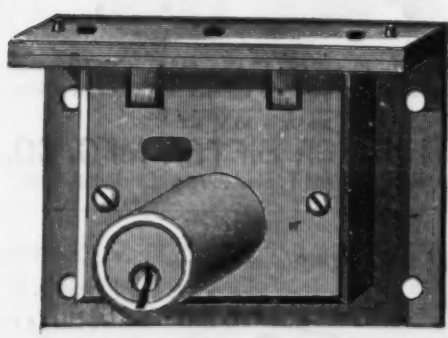
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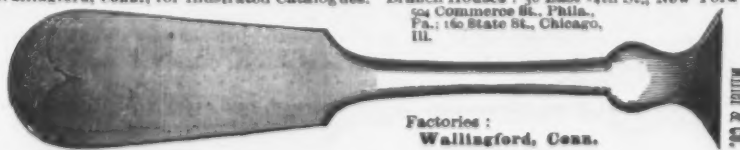


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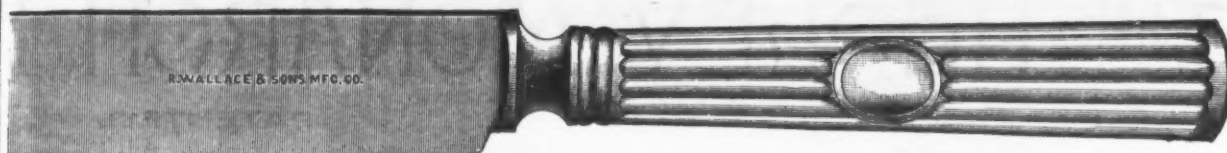
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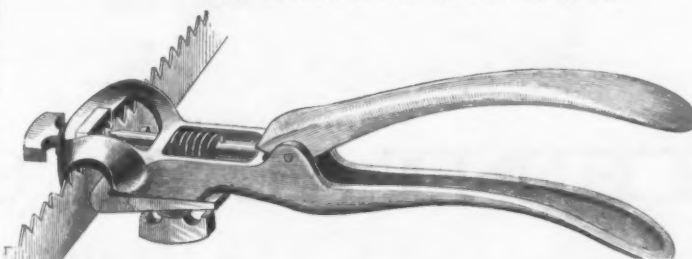
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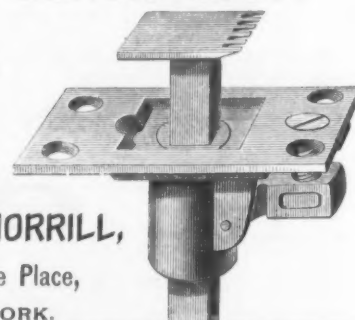
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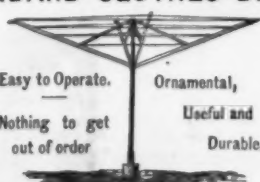
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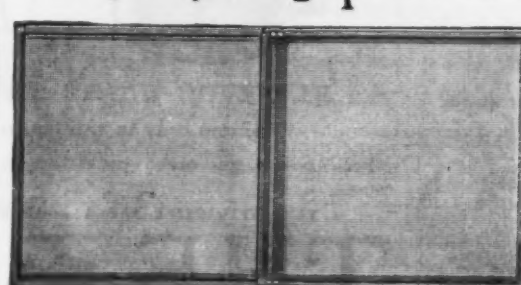
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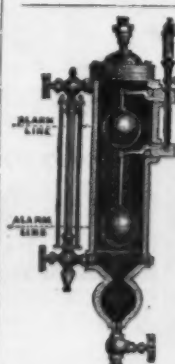


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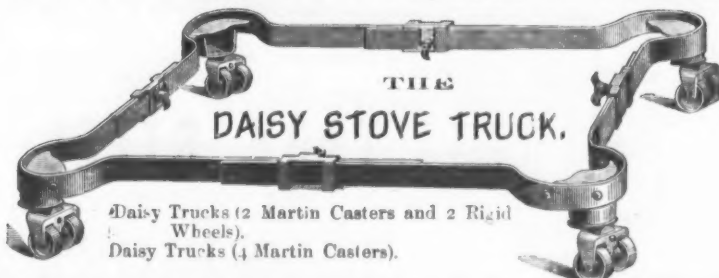
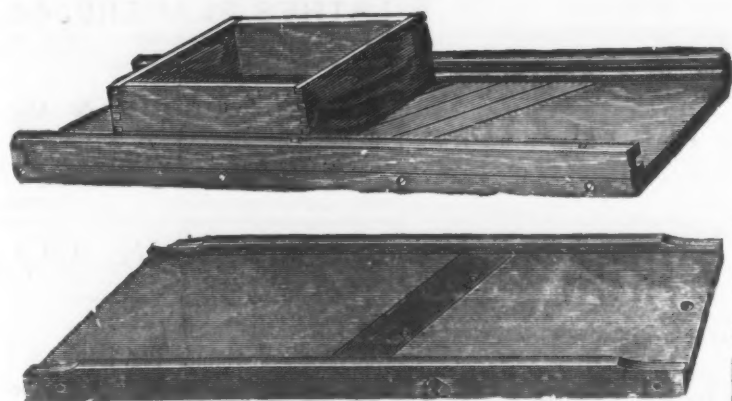
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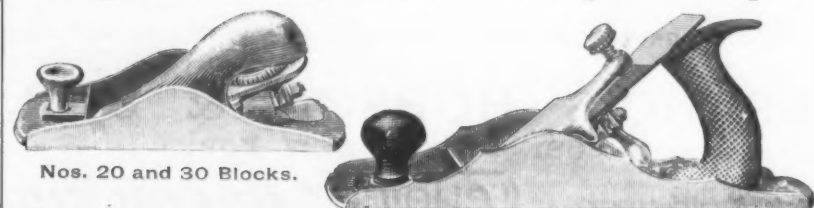
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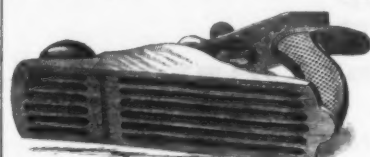


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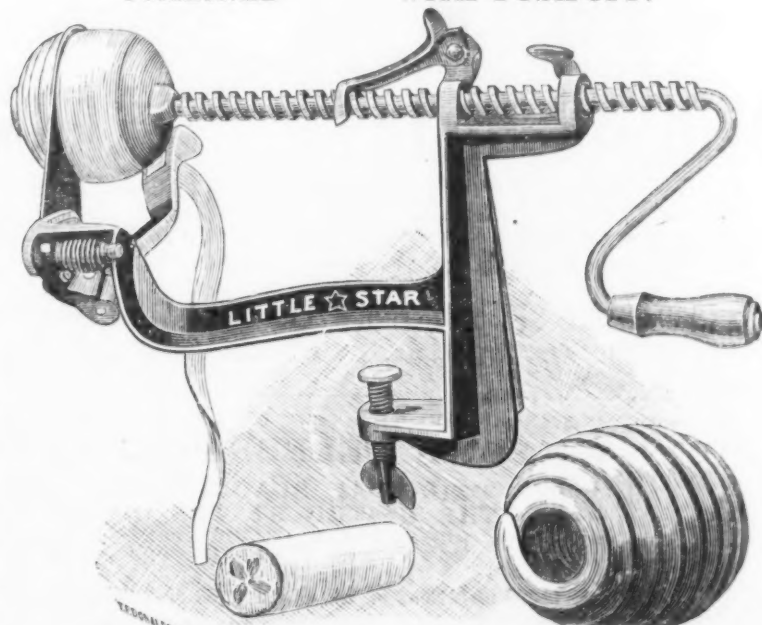
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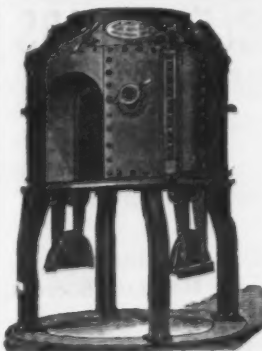
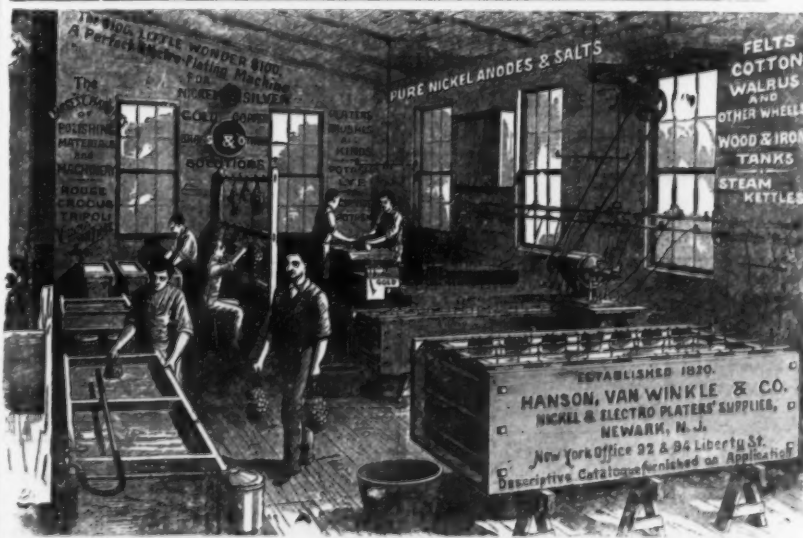
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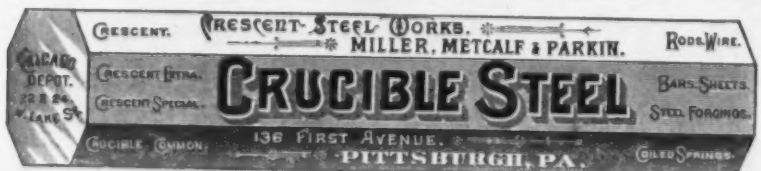
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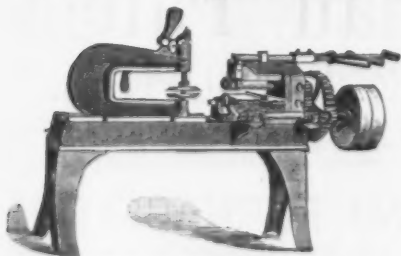
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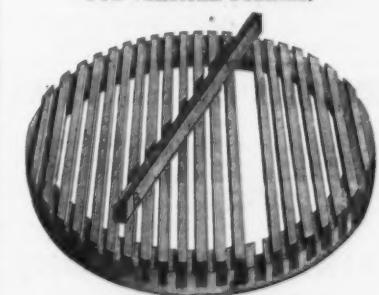
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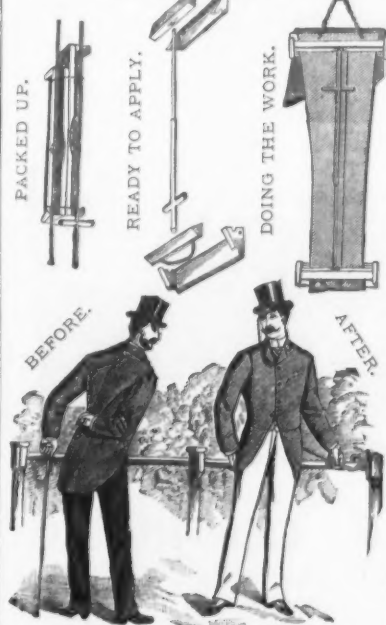
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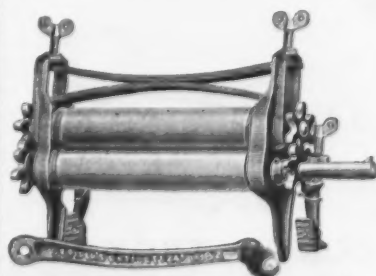
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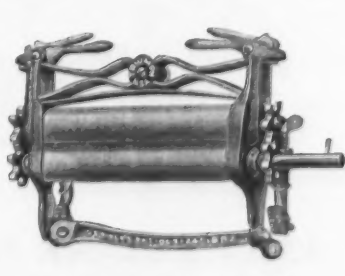
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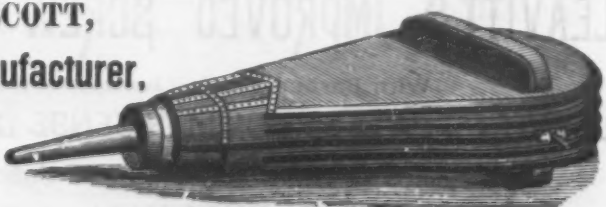
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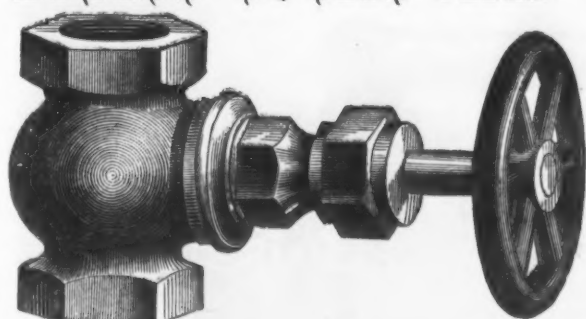
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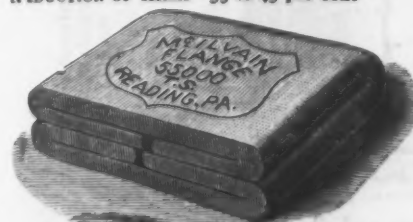
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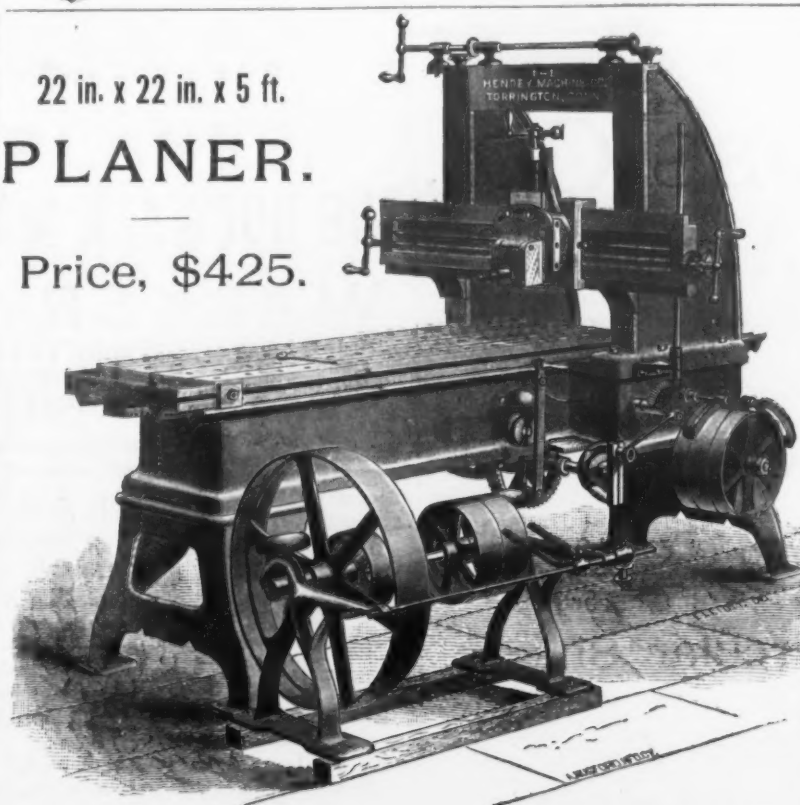
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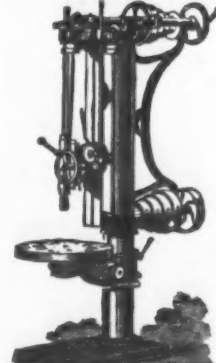
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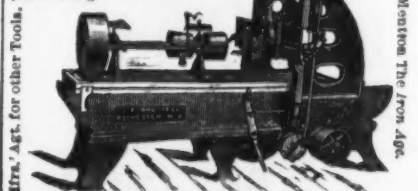
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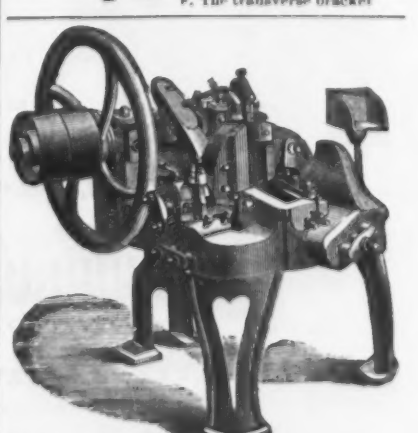
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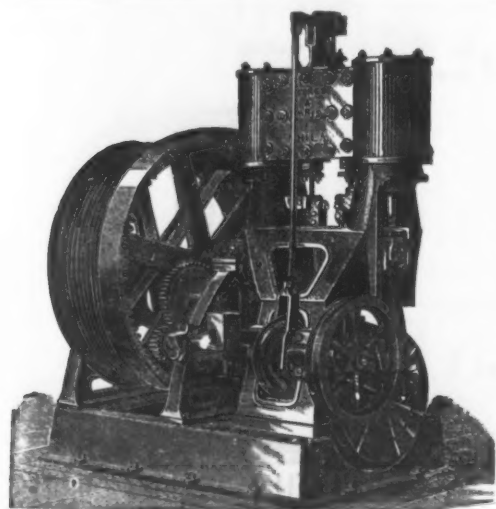
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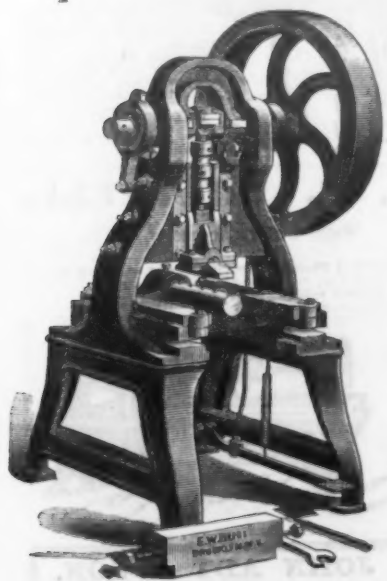
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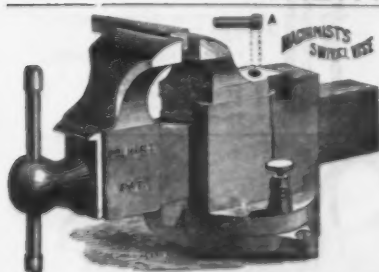
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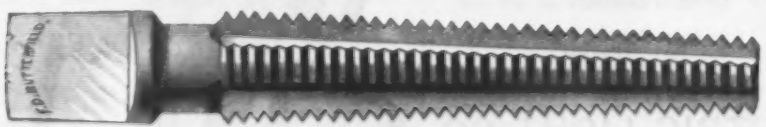
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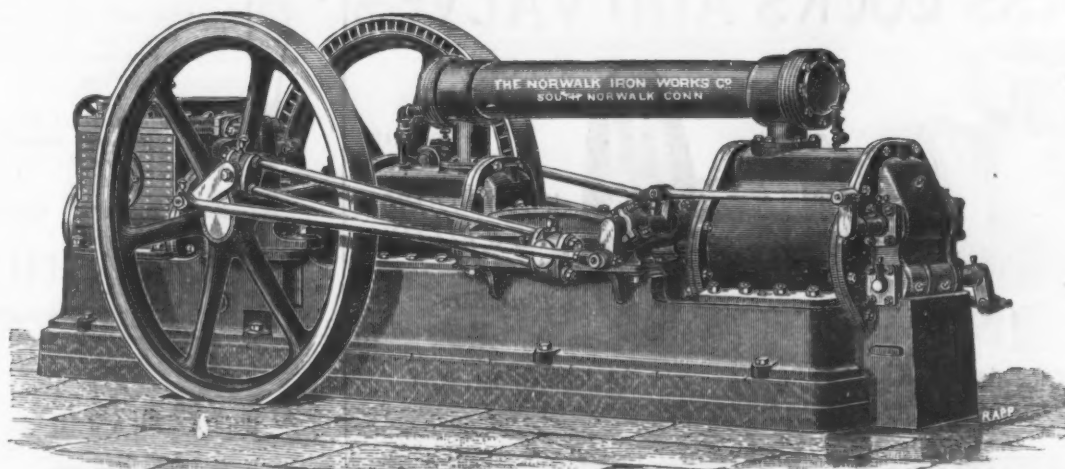
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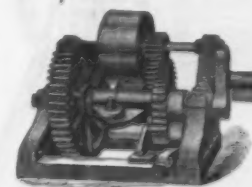
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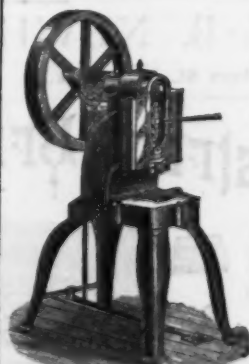
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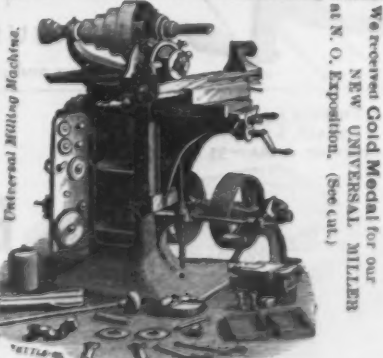
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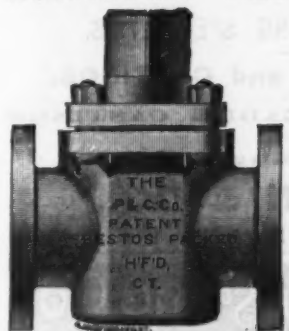
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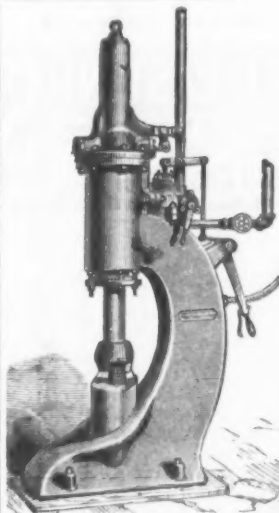
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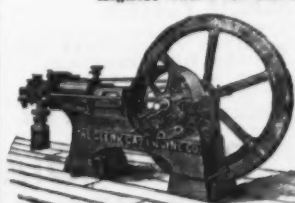
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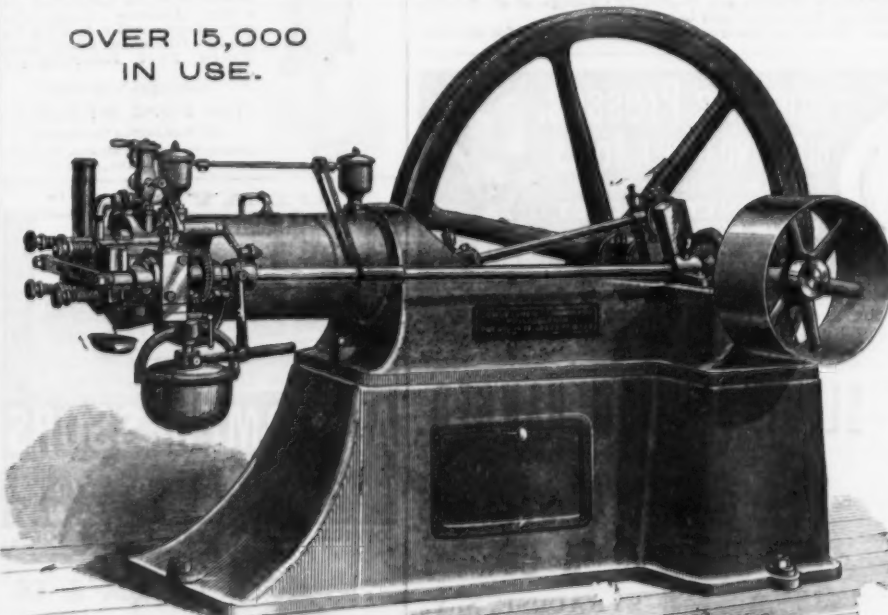


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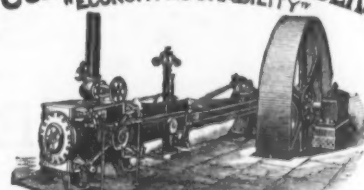
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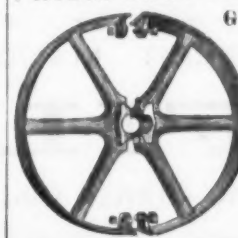
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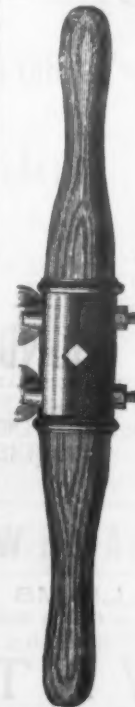
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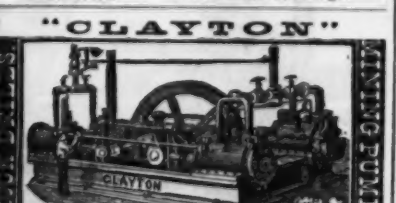
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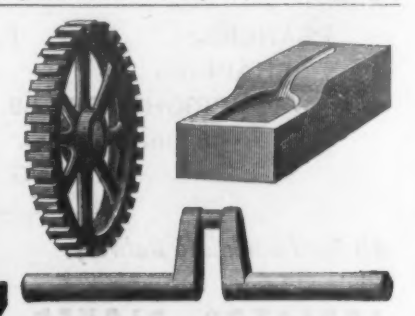
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